

Parliament endorses investment law

AMMAN (I.T.) — The Lower House of Parliament on Wednesday endorsed a new investment promotion law that offers high incentives for capital. Wednesday's law was passed by acclamation in the 80-seat Parliament. Nine deputies were absent from the four-hour debate in which Islamist deputies rejected the law. The new law offers up to 75 per cent reductions in taxes for businesses that would be set up in underdeveloped areas in the Kingdom, provides further exemptions for hospitals and hotels, allows investors exemptions from government-imposed restrictions on financial transactions, gives Arab and non-Arab investors equal rights to Jordanians and calls for setting up three institutions that will be responsible for promoting investment and for helping mitigate bureaucratic procedures.

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Abdul Meguid: Peace before cooperation

CAIRO (AP) — Arab League Secretary-General General Abdul Meguid said Wednesday that no Arab economic cooperation with Israel until there is a comprehensive Middle East peace. He also urged that Arab countries abolish all restrictions on bilateral trade and set up an Arab trading alliance. "Cooperation between Arab countries should take place before cooperation with Israel," Dr. Abdul Meguid told a meeting of Arab economic and finance ministers. He added: "Israel has to realize that cooperation with it is closely linked to solving all pending political issues related to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian cause and establishing a comprehensive and just peace in the region."

court rejects plea for bail

LII (R) — India's

Court said Tuesday

rejected a plea for

bail for film star Sanjay

Rajput, 34, who

was arrested

more than a year

ago on charges

of corruption and

abetting a riot.

The court, which

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U.S. ambassadors prepare ground ahead of summit

NEW YORK (USIA) — The U.S. ambassadors to five Middle Eastern states met with key U.S. business leaders here Monday to talk about the new commercial opportunities which peace and economic reform are making possible in the region.

The special conference was organised by the Commerce Department and the Business Council for International Understanding in preparation for the Amman economic Summit, which will take place in the Jordanian capital the last three days in October. The ambassadors will speak at similar meetings in Chicago and Houston later this week.

The ambassadors all stressed their embassies' commitment to helping U.S. companies invest in the region and each urged the businessmen to come to the Summit to learn more about the opportunities.

"There's been an enormous change in the region," Edward Walker, U.S. ambassador to Egypt, said. The Egyptian people feel that peace will bring economic growth to the region, and they want to take part in the process, he said.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak is now considering a host of new pro-business measures, which have sent "extremely strong signals" to the private sector, Mr. Walker added.

On the security side, there has also been "a major change" in Egypt, he stated, noting his "enormous confidence" in the government's ability to keep terrorism under control.

Islamic fundamentalism, however, still poses potential difficulties for the country, the ambassador said. For that reason, "it is critical for Egypt to grow" and surmount the economic prob-

lems on which fundamentalism feeds. Recognition of this fact has proved "a major stimulant" to the government's new commitment to economic reform, he added.

A key sign of Mr. Mubarak's interest in creating a more business-friendly environment is the appointment of his son to the President's Council, a grouping of business and government leaders who discuss ways to promote growth and commercial opportunities.

Asked to comment on a report that certain congressmen may be considering cutting American assistance to Egypt, Mr. Walker said that it "would be the biggest mistake they could make."

The U.S. ambassador to Israel, Martin Indyk, also stressed the new business opportunities which are emerging in Israel and the core Middle East as a result of the peace process. While there had been reason to believe the heartland of the region was hostile to business, "all that is changing and is changing rapidly," he stated.

The Middle East has now become a "market of great opportunity," Mr. Indyk said, urging those present to come to the summit. "The whole idea of an integrated Middle East market is opening up before our eyes."

According to Mr. Indyk, the Israeli economic climate "received a tremendous boost" from signing the declaration of principles with the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) in September 1993.

Israel's gross national product is \$80,000 million per year and growing at a rate of eight per cent this year, he said. U.S. trade with Israel was valued at \$10,000 million last year, he added.

Foreign investment will be

needed as Israel upgrades its infrastructure, Mr. Indyk said. Among the areas where he sees the most potential for U.S. investors are telecommunications, power generation, hotel development and port and airport expansion.

Mr. Indyk also noted that the Israelis are increasingly interested in U.S. goods, noting the great popularity of retailers like Toys R Us and Ace Hardware which have recently opened stores in the country.

With the agreement to transfer more Israeli authority over the West Bank to the Palestinians, something he expected would take place next week, the process will have "gone beyond the point of no return," Mr. Indyk stated.

At the same time, he noted, it is very important that countries which have made peace see tangible results. The United States, he added, will remain "actively engaged" in seeing that they do.

Wesley Egan, U.S. ambassador to Jordan, pointed to the "extraordinary and very dynamic change" which the Hashemite Kingdom has undergone since signing its peace treaty with Israel last October. The Jordanian economy grew by 5.5 per cent last year, Mr. Egan said, while its debt burden fell considerably.

At the same time, the country is going through "an intense process" of economic restructuring which should lead to a new investment code and a sharp reduction in the public sector. All of this should translate into new opportunities for American investment. Key areas are telecommunications, financial services and major infrastructure projects.

Asked why Syria and Lebanon were not attending the Amman summit, Mr. Egan replied that it was their choice and that the United States "would be delighted" if they participated.

In contrast to other parts of the Middle East, the United States has long had substantial investment opportunities in Kuwait, Ambassador Ryan Crocker commented. There are already some 900 American companies present in the country and the market is "by no means saturated," he said. Indeed, there remains "intense interest in (products) 'Made in USA,'" he said, adding he anticipated some \$15 million in new business over the next few years in "everything from petrochemicals to pizza."

In addition to petroleum and defence equipment, there will be "multi-billion dollar opportunities" for U.S. companies in telecommunications, housing, power generation and health care, he said.

Mr. Crocker linked Kuwaiti participation at the Amman Summit to a strong U.S. presence there. Kuwaiti businessmen will probably take their cues from U.S. companies, he commented.

The American ambassador to Saudi Arabia, former Mississippi Governor Raymond Mabus, began by noting the 60-year trading relationship between the U.S. and the kingdom. Not only do the Saudis constitute the largest market for U.S. defence equipment, he said, but they also purchased more than \$1,500 million worth of computers last year and more American-made automobiles than any other nation.

In its own quiet way, Saudi Arabia has "been supportive of the peace process," Mr. Mabus said, noting that the kingdom convinced the other Gulf countries to eliminate the secondary and tertiary aspects of the boycott against Israel.

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'Jordanian, Palestinian women share aspirations for peace'

BEIJING (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma said Wednesday that Jordanian women share with Palestinian women their dreams and their ambitions towards peace and extend all possible assistance to them whenever it is needed.

In an interview with the China News Agency, the Princess, who headed Jordan's delegation to the World Conference on Women which concluded here this week, said Jordanian women's role in the peace process is essential after the signing of the Jordan-Israel peace treaty because they can encourage peaceful attitudes in their capacity as mothers, sisters and wives seeking to attain a

better future for their children.

Asked about the priorities for Jordanian women, she said that the main priority is to eradicate poverty and unemployment, two chronic problems that can be solved by the creation of new job opportunities for women through training in income-generating projects that would improve their standard of living.

Referring to the Jordanian National Strategy on Women, the Princess said it aims at promoting the role of women in health, economic and social affairs and also in involving them in socio-economic schemes.

With reference to educa-

tion, Princess Basma said that Jordanian men and women have equal educational opportunities in schools and universities, adding that education is an essential element for promoting the status of women and enabling them to be involved in various activities.

Princess Basma said the discussions at the World Conference on Women in covered all aspects of women's life and she said that she felt that the meetings were all held in a relaxed atmosphere marked by close cooperation and understanding among the various delegates.

Premier reaffirms pledge to support ARABSAT efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Wednesday reaffirmed Jordan's pledge to provide assistance and expertise towards the promotion of the Arab Satellite Communication Organisation, known as ARABSAT.

Speaking at his office with a delegation representing the ARABSAT board of directors, the prime minister said Jordan was ready to promote cooperation with other Arab countries to assist in the development and progress of the organisation's services.

ARABSAT's Chairman of the Board Mohammad Jamil Mulla briefed the prime

minister on the outcome of the board's meetings over the past week in Amman.

Discussions at the meetings centred on the launching of a new generation of satellites to serve the Arab World in July of 1996, he said.

M. Mulla said delegates also reviewed the organisation's financial situation as well as a report on the organisation's performance last year.

The organisation, founded by the Arab League's ministers of post and communications in 1976, aims at creating a pan-Arab satellite network.

Countries on the board attending the meetings were

Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Kuwait.

The board concluded its meetings with a statement indicating that by the end of 1995 the organisation will have obtained profits estimated at \$25 million from fees paid by Arab countries.

The statement also said that new efforts will be made to market ARABSAT satellites in the Arab World with the additional announcement that the board's next meeting is expected to be held in Morocco in December 1995.

Temperatures to drop gradually, meteorologists

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Meteorology Department forecast a gradual drop in temperatures as of Thursday evening, but stay well above the annual average.

The department expected the heatwave which hit the Kingdom Monday to continue all day Thursday, with temperatures in Amman

expected to reach a maximum of 37°C, as compared to 38.2°C recorded in downtown Amman Wednesday. The department expected temperatures in Aqaba to soar to a maximum of 41°C Thursday, the same recorded there on Wednesday.

The department said clouds were expected to show at various altitudes,

keeping a chance for scattered showers, with north-easterly light winds causing dusty weather in desert areas.

A department statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the heatwave was a result of a low air pressure system centred over the northwestern part of the Arab peninsula.

The more peace is

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan-Israel peace treaty which was signed last October has led to the creation of opportunity circumstances for the growth and development of the tourism sector in Jordan, Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Abdul Ilah Khatib said Wednesday.

In a lecture he delivered at the Philadelphia Lions Club in Amman, the minister said one would not be over optimistic in saying that Jordan's tourism sector will continue to witness a boom, and that the country will experience further increases in the number of tourists.

Neither is it an exaggeration to say that the tourism sector will continue to serve as an important factor in attracting investors from Jordan and abroad in the coming stage, said Mr. Khatib.

"My expectations do not imply that our region is unique in attracting tourists and investors," according to the minister who stressed that tourism occupies a vital sector of the world's economy.

Expressing disagreement with those who say that peace has come abruptly catching us unprepared, the minister said that it is not too late to start improvements because we are face to face with a new opportunity and a challenge in developing our tourism industry to become more appropriate to and matching the value of our archaeological wealth and tourist attractions.

To achieve this goal, he said, Jordan should start expanding and improving infrastructure services and tourist accommodation facilities. Mr. Khatib emphasised that it has been more than 10 years since a major hotel has been constructed in Amman.

He said the Ministry of Tourism has noticed increased investment in hotels and approval has been obtained for the construction of hotels with an accommodation capacity equal to 50 per cent of that of the existing hotels.

This, he stressed, does not mean that matters are moving in exactly the right direction because the two prominent attraction sites — Aqaba and the Dead Sea — are still undeveloped.

Investment in hotels requires experience and specialised skills which entail raising the standard of ser-

vices at the tourist sites and providing the necessary facilities for visitors, according to Mr. Khatib.

He said this is the responsibility of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities. Mr. Khatib said tourism-related activities are now moving towards improvement with the recent start-up of projects at tourist sites in Amman, Petra, Umm Qais and Mekar, while other projects are planned for Jerash, Wadi Rum and Karak.

Despite the unique character of our archaeological sites, said the minister, it is regrettable to say that Jordan's tourism facilities are still be the aspired level.

Expressing disagreement with those who say that peace has come abruptly catching us unprepared, the minister said that it is not too late to start improvements because we are face to face with a new opportunity and a challenge in developing our tourism industry to become more appropriate to and matching the value of our archaeological wealth and tourist attractions.

In this respect, it is important that Jordanians should develop their traditional handicrafts, and it is equally important to give proper training to local communities so that they are encouraged to become involved in hotel and tourism services. Mr. Khatib continued.

He said he hoped that the transfer of the Amman Hotel to the private sector will be expedited and that the establishment would be converted into a national centre for hotel and tourism training at the local and national levels.

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Writers group opens new branch premises

By Muhammad Tahboub
Special to the Jordan Times

IRBID — Ever since the Jordanian Writers' Association (JWA) left, or was forced to leave, its residence at the Construction of Irbid park in 1984, in compliance with the transitional municipal council's order, members of the association have had no place to meet or perform their cultural activities.

The day is not far when we will have Irbid's palace of culture with all the proper facilities and utilities it deserves such as libraries, theatres, conference halls, among other things," he

said.

Following introductory speeches three poets Ibrahim Khateeb, Nayef Abu Obeid and Mohammad Mqaddi recited selections of their own works.

Present at the opening ceremony of the new premises were Director of the Department of Culture in Irbid Suleiman Azuri, President of the Jordanian Translators' Association Abdulla Shunaq, Yarmouk University professors and private citizens.

On Tuesday, however, the new premises of the association, located vis-a-vis the northern gate of Yarmouk University, were formally

opened by Irbid Mayor Abdul Raouf Tel.

At the opening ceremony President of the Irbid branch of the JWA Mahmoud Issa reiterated the association's position of anti-normalisation with Israel.

In his speech, the mayor promised to allot part of the municipal budget of 1996 for the association.

"The day is not far when we will have Irbid's palace of culture with all the proper facilities and utilities it deserves such as libraries, theatres, conference halls, among other things," he

During these performances, Ms. Wakim will be accompanied on the piano by National Music Conservatory pianist Mohammad Othman Siddiqi.

The programme includes songs from famous American productions such as "Climb Every Mountain" from The Sound of Music, "Over the Rainbow" from The Wizard of Oz and jazz favourites from Gershwin's

"Open Air Sculpture workshop."

WHAT'S GOING ON

FILM

"Dave," at the American Centre on Thursday at 5:00 p.m.

MONO-DRAMA

"The Great Death," in Arabic, at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art on Friday at 7:00 p.m.

DARAT AL FUNUN

SUMMER '95 ACTIVITIES

FILM

"Calder," at Darat Al Funun at 5:00 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

Graphic work by several artists and students in the South Gallery.

Photography of Jordan, "Elements in Harmony" by Hala Hilmi Hodeib at the Blue House.

Painted stone and steel, "Embargo Art" by Iraqi artist Nuha Al Radi at the Garden of the Blue House.

"Early Morning Scribbles" by Lebanese artist Amin Al Bacha and Jordanian artist Raywa Bint Ali and "Late Night Scribbles" by Amin Al Bacha and Jordanian artist Ali Bermenter.

"Open Air Sculpture workshop."

Ceramic shop at the Lower Garden.

Works by contemporary Arab artists at the Central Gallery.

3-D experiments in calligraphy by Usama Khalidi at Library.

EXHIBITIONS

Abstract art by Iraqi artist Faris 'Ashour at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Photographs on Jordan entitled "Jordan, One of a Kind" by Paula Williams-Brown and illustrations and water colours by Jordanian artist Ramzi El-Sayyed at The Gallery, main lobby of Jordan InterContinental Hotel.

Arabic calligraphy at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art.

Works by Mohammad Ali Shakir at Ab'd Art Gallery.

Paintings by Palestinian artist Samira Badran at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Jabal Amman.

Exhibition demonstrating the development of cinema over the past century at the French Cultural Centre.

American soprano Anita Wakim to launch NMC music season

AMMAN (J.T.) — The National Music Conservatory of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation Sunday launches its new musical season in with performances by American Soprano Anita Wakim in cooperation with the The American Center in Amman.

Ms. Wakim will give two public performances while in Jordan: The first on Sunday, Sept. 17 at the Royal Cultural Centre and the second on Monday, Sept. 18 in Madaba.

During these performances, Ms. Wakim will be accompanied on the piano by National Music Conservatory pianist Mohammad Othman Siddiqi.

The programme includes songs from famous American productions such as "Climb Every Mountain" from The Sound of Music, "Over the Rainbow" from The Wizard of Oz and jazz favourites from Gershwin's

"Open Air Sculpture workshop."

Anita Wakim

"Porgy and Bess."

Ms. Wakim, who began her musical studies at the age of six, studied music at Yale University and Boston University and holds a B.A. in music.

Jordan starts clean-up drive

AMMAN (J.T.) — "Recycling waste is a national income" was the slogan under which the Jordanian Environment Society (JES) Wednesday launched a nation-wide three-day clean-up campaign.

The campaign is being carried out in 13 Jordanian cities where there are JES branches, according to JES Director Suleiman Hanbali.

The campaign is aimed at getting citizens used to collecting waste matter and keeping the country clean and tidy, he said.

The drive takes place at the same time in 107 nations under a world programme of keeping the planet clean.

75 feared killed in Sri Lanka military aircraft crash

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — A military transport aircraft crashed into the sea off the coast of western Sri Lanka in bad weather Wednesday, and all 75 people on board were feared killed, a senior air force official said.

The air force said there was no evidence that the plane was brought down by Tamil rebels.

The propeller-driven AN-32 aircraft took off from Kattankudy Airport, 12 kilometres south of Colombo bound for the Palai military base in northern Sri Lanka.

"The aircraft had been in radio contact and was attempting to return when it lost communications and disappeared from the ground-based radar screens," said Air Commodore Jayalath Weerakody, director of air force operations.

Earlier, a military spokesman said 81 people

were on board, but the air force revised the figure after checking the manifest.

Hours after the plane disappeared, rescue aircraft and ships sighted an oil slick and cigarette cartons floating in the sea.

Later, naval ships recovered a control rod, a fire extinguisher, two pieces of clothing and identification cards, but no wreckage was sighted. The sea bed is at a depth of 1,000 metres, and cannot be seen from the surface.

"We have still not come to a definite conclusion ... But with the little evidence available, the crash may have occurred due to bad weather," Commodore Weerakody told a press briefing. He ruled out a Tamil rebel surface-to-air missile attack.

Ten minutes after taking off at 7:08 am (0138 GMT) in pouring rain, the pilot, Squadron Leader Ranjan

Palkyanathan, had developed a problem with instruments on the aircraft.

"The radar controller had communication with the pilot, guiding him back to avoid bad weather, when the aircraft disappeared," Commodore Weerakody said.

Ground stations lost touch with the aircraft when it was off the coast of Negombo, 50 kilometres from Ratmalana.

The plane was carrying troops for a planned offensive against Tamil guerrillas, officials said. The military had launched its biggest anti-rebel offensive in eight years from Palai in July.

The aircraft was at a height of 8,000 feet (2,400 metres) and ascending over the sea, when it made contact with the radar controller.

Sri Lanka asked India to use its satellites to help track the wreckage and possible survivors. The aircraft was carrying 68 soldiers, two

policemen and the five member air force crew.

Tamil separatist rebels are fighting government troops in the north and east to win a separate homeland for minority Tamils. More than 36,000 people have been killed in the war since 1983.

Since fighting erupted on April 19 after peace talks broke down, rebels have shot down three military aircraft in the north with missiles, severely depleting the strength of the nation's small air force and affecting troop movements to the war zone.

The plane that crashed Wednesday was one of the three AN-32s purchased from Ukraine in July, for \$4.5 million each, in a push to match rebel strength.

The new aircraft were equipped with antimissile systems, to protect them from rebel missiles.



The Princess of Wales and Italian opera star Luciano Pavarotti walk arm in arm into the concert arena in Modena, Italy, where a charity concert was held in aid of the children of Bosnia (AFP photo)

Opera, rock mix beat for children of Bosnia

MODENA, Italy (R) — A galaxy of stars mixed opera, rock and rap when the world of music came together to sing for the children of Bosnia.

Italy's prince of opera, Luciano Pavarotti, assembled a who's who of the music business to beat out everything from Irish folk to the Ave Maria at a benefit concert for the child victims of Europe's bloodiest conflict since World War II.

"If one child gets helped, God's looking down on us and God will smile," American rock giant Meatloaf told Reuters.

He spoke backstage after joining Pavarotti in a duet of the Neapolitan song Come Back To Sorento on a night of music attended by 15,000 people including Britain's Princess Diana, the guest of honour.

Pink-haired Dolores O'Riordan, lead singer of the Cranberries, teamed up with the tenor for the hymn Ave Maria and American Michael Bolton almost matched him for impact in an operatic aria.

Tensions ran high after a gun battle between the militants and police Monday near Gustafsen Lake about 450 kilometres north of Vancouver. Officials sought Tuesday to restart negotiations with an estimated 20 protesters occupying part of a private ranch in the British Columbia interior who claim it is sacred Indian land.

The gunfire

— the seventh outbreak of shooting at Gustafsen Lake so far — is the latest in a string of confrontations across Canada between Indians and police over the issue of land rights.

Seven protesters who have left the Gustafsen Lake camp in the last two weeks, and officials believe fewer than 20 rebels remain inside. One militant was slightly injured in Monday's clash but refused to leave the camp.

Two unidentified 15-year-old girls were brought out of the camp and taken to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment in nearby 100 Mile House after a Shuswap first nation spiritual adviser visited the camp Tuesday.

Police spokesman Peter Montague told reporters that a man was captured outside a perimeter police have drawn around the camp. The man was not identified, but is believed to be a protester reported missing after Monday's gunbattle.

Shuswap Indian leaders continued efforts to mediate an end to the month-old standoff and raised the idea of bringing in United Nations-style third-party observers.

Indian leaders criticised police Tuesday and said they believed the federal government is bringing in military anti-terrorist forces. The Shuswap and Okanagan nation alliance said in a statement that the protesters' rights to food, water and emergency medical aid were being violated.

Police spokesman John Ward said there was no build-up of army personnel. He said a police offer to evacuate wounded protesters was refused Monday.

The land rights issue has also simmered in Ontario, where in Grand Bend a 38-year-old Indian was killed last week in another gunbattle with police during a continuing standoff.

"I don't think you can stop war with war," he said in a rap rhythm. "I think there are fairer ways to obtain peace."

War Child, which has strong support from Brian Eno, was started in 1991 by two cameramen who were shocked by what they saw in the war in Croatia.

It has already raised £1 million (\$1.5 million) from sales of a charity record album by some of Britain's best young pop bands and former Beatle Paul McCartney. The compilation hit British stores only last Saturday.

The night ended with Pavarotti and his friends all on stage to sing a new song, The Bridge Is Broken, and the opera maestro's signature aria "Nessun Dorma".

Written by composer-conductor Michael Kaymen, The Bridge Is Broken was inspired by the famous Ottoman Turkish bridge in the Bosnian city of Mostar, where War Child hopes to set up a musical therapy centre for children traumatised by war.

Italian rap star Jovanotti introduced a note of controversy when he used his act to criticise NATO air raids "under way" against Bosnian Serb military targets.

Armenia denies leak at nuclear plant

YEREVAN, Armenia (AP) — The gunfight — the seventh outbreak of shooting at Gustafsen Lake so far — is the latest in a string of confrontations across Canada between Indians and police over the issue of land rights.

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"There hasn't been and there won't be anything like that," Mr. Martirosian told a news conference.

Last June, the energy-starved Armenia shrugged off safety concerns and protests from its neighbours and officially reopened its aging nuclear power plant, which was closed after the devastating 1988 earthquake.

Test operations on the reactor have been underway since then, but the plant is not expected to start producing electricity for commercial use before December.

The Medzamor plant was

built in 1979 and closed in 1989 following the earthquake in northern Armenia that claimed 25,000 lives. It is situated 30 kilometres west of the Armenian capital, Yerevan, and just 12 kilometres from Turkey.

Armenia has been crippled by an energy blockade during its 7-year war with neighbouring Azerbaijan over the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh. For several winters in a row, homes only had power and water for an hour or two a day, and most factories closed or operated at a fraction of capacity.

Amin rebels threaten Ugandan town

KAMPALA (R) — Rebels who say they want to reinstate exiled former dictator Idi Amin as Uganda's ruler have threatened to seize his hometown in the country's northwest.

"We shall capture Arua in the next few weeks just to show them (the government) that we are not just another rag-tag army," a man who identified himself as a lieutenant-colonel in the rebel army said in telephone call to an international news agency Tuesday night.

The West Nile Bank Front (WNBF) rebel group first surfaced in May and says it wants to topple President Yoweri Museveni's government and reinstate Mr. Amin.

Mr. Amin, 70, has been in exile in Saudi Arabia since fleeing Uganda in 1979 when Tanzanian troops overthrew him and ended a bloodthirsty rule which shocked the world. Tens of thousands of people were killed under his eight-year reign of terror.

But he enjoys a strong following among local tribesmen and Muslims who were the favoured during his rule.

The caller said the WNBF, led by former Amin aide Colonel Juma Oris, has more than 4,000 fighters and was strong enough to take on government troops in the area.

The government imposed an all-night curfew on Arua over the weekend to contain

rebel attacks and security officials say scores of people have been arrested since then.

Hundreds of people have fled the Arua area, which borders Sudan and Zaire, as a result of the rebel activities.

"We are interested in peace all right but it takes two to tango," the caller said.

"It is because of their intransigence that we have decided to take this action. We have been waiting for openings for talks but this latest move shows they are not interested."

Uganda says the WNBF is backed by Sudan and Zaire. Sudan denies the charge.

Blast shreds vehicle, kills 5 in U.S. shopping centre parking lot

ESSEX, Maryland (AP) — A man estranged from his wife drove his family to a shopping mall parking lot and blew up their car, killing himself, his wife and three children, police said Tuesday.

The land rights issue has also simmered in Ontario, where in Grand Bend a 38-year-old Indian was killed last week in another gunbattle with police during a continuing standoff.

as Mark A. Clark, 32, and his estranged wife Betty Louise Clark, 32. Their 4-year-old daughter, Krysta Clark, and two of Mrs. Clark's children, Malissa Ray, 11, and Ricardo Valdez, 6, were also killed.

Police said they had no records of domestic violence, but family members have told police Mr. Clark had threatened his family. Police would not provide

any details.

"We strongly suspect that he brought his family in his car with the explosives and the intention to kill them," said a police spokesman, Lt. Steve Doarberger.

Police suspect a form of dynamite called slurry caused the blast that ripped apart the 1987 Ford Taurus station wagon.

Buckingham Palace — an expensive tourist traps

LONDON (AFP) — Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle, two of the queen's official residences,

are among the poorest-value tourist attractions in Britain according to a report. The palace is described by the respected consumer magazine Holiday Which? as "one of the most expensive tourist traps in England," the Times newspaper reported.

The magazine rated it the worst value in a national league table with Windsor Castle just above it in a "poor value" category, the paper said. Other attractions criticised include the prehistoric site Stonehenge in western England, Saint Paul's Cathedral in London, and the Tower of London, which had raised prices by 24 per cent in two years.

Brighton's Royal Pavilion on the south coast and the Roman Baths in Bath, western England, were praised for being good value for money. Buckingham Palace, which opened its doors two years ago to help to pay for reconstruction after a fire at Windsor, charges £3.50 (\$13) entrance fee, but according to the report "there's not enough on offer to justify the price."

The report added that because none of the exhibits was labelled visitors needed to buy a guidebook costing £3.50 (\$5) to be able to know what they were looking at.

War Child, which has strong support from Brian Eno, was started in 1991 by two cameramen who were shocked by what they saw in the war in Croatia.

It has already raised £1 million (\$1.5 million) from sales of a charity record album by some of Britain's best young pop bands and former Beatle Paul McCartney.

The audience at the open-air concert, held in a central park in Pavarotti's northern home town of Modena, paid between \$20 and \$155 for tickets to the 2-1/2 show.

All receipts, plus donations from Italian television viewers and proceeds from sales around the world of audio and video recordings of the concert, will go to the small British charity War Child.

"We believe that when this war is over for the children, they will want to sing," Pavarotti told the crowd.

"I know because I was 10 when the war ended here and the first thing I wanted to do to show we were alive was sing."

Italian rap star Jovanotti introduced a note of controversy when he used his act to criticise NATO air raids "under way" against Bosnian Serb military targets.

Written by composer-conductor Michael Kaymen, The Bridge Is Broken was inspired by the famous Ottoman Turkish bridge in the Bosnian city of Mostar, where War Child hopes to set up a musical therapy centre for children traumatised by war.

Having stood for centuries, the bridge was destroyed in bitter fighting between Serbs, Croats and Muslims.

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Time for Jerusalem

THE STEPPED-UP Israeli campaign against Palestinian institutions in occupied Jerusalem should be seen in the broader context of Israel's policies on the holy city. That the campaign is taking place at a time when Israel is in the midst of peace talks with the Palestinians and other Arab parties rings an alarm about the future of the city and the Arab identity of its Eastern part. What is more alarming, however, is that the effort to obliterate the Arab character of Jerusalem is being launched during the reign of a Labour government which has committed itself to discussing the issue with the Palestinians.

Arabs have often argued that in their conflict with Israel time is on their side. This argument is obviously faulty when it comes to Jerusalem, however. This is so not just because of what the Israeli government and Mayor Olmert are doing in order to change the character of the city and consolidate the Jewish presence in it. It also is because of demographic changes that are taking place in terms of the numbers of Arabs and Jews living in Jerusalem and also in terms of the type of Jews who are moving into the city.

As secular Israelis are not showing any particular interest in making Jerusalem their home, religious Jews are moving in en masse in a conscious effort to abort any political decision to reach a compromise with the Arabs.

Once religious Jews are the majority in Jerusalem, they could elect a fundamentalist mayor who would move faster than his government in consolidating the Jewish presence there. These extremists might then want to drive the Arabs out of the city and prevent their government from striking any deal on it. The massacre at Haram Al Ibrahimi in Hebron over a year and a half ago is a bloody example of what they might do.

This is why it is extremely urgent that the Palestinians and the rest of the Arab countries continue to make Jerusalem a priority issue. It is with extreme alertness and care that they should be watching all Israeli acts in the city and helping encourage the Arab presence in it. The question of Jerusalem is clearly one that the Arabs should not leave for time. Nothing short of solid, coordinated and well-thought-out action can help restore Arab rights in one of their holiest cities.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

COMMENTING ON a report in the American press that the Jordanian authorities have seized an Iraqi car full of weapons on its way to Jordan, a writer in Al Ra'i daily said the Americans are trying to create an atmosphere of tension between Amman and Baghdad. It would not be surprising to hear other similar false reports of this kind and to hear about Israeli agents planting explosives in Jordan like they did in Egypt, in order to damage Jordanian-Iraqi relations and help tighten the noose around Baghdad, said Tareq Masarweh. Urging the public and the government to keep their eyes open and remain vigilant against such actions, the writer said that forces hostile to the Arabs are working hard through their plots and conspiracies to isolate Jordan from its neighbouring Arab states and become completely dependent on Israel, succumbing to its whims and desires.

LIBYA'S EXPULSION of 30,000 Palestinians should be condemned as an inhuman action committed against people who have lost their homeland, said Taher Al Adwan, a columnist in Al Dustour daily. But Libya is not solely responsible for the tragedy of these people who are now stranded at sea near Lebanon or along the Libyan-Egyptian borders, said the writer. At least 15,000 of these people are entitled to return to Palestinian land because they carry travel documents from Gaza issued to them by the Egyptian authorities, which had ruled the Gaza Strip; and therefore Israel bears the responsibility for their return, according to the writer. The other 15,000 are the responsibility of Syria and Lebanon, which had issued them travel documents which opened the way for their travel to Libya, he continued. We are appalled to see the Libyan authorities taking this shameful step, but we are also shocked to see Lebanon turning the refugees away and Egypt failing to allow them to cross into its territory. It is ironic, said the writer, to hear about the plight of the refugees at a time when Israeli and Arab delegates are gathered in Amman discussing not the problem of repatriating the refugees but the question of who should be considered a displaced person with Israel adamantly refusing the idea of their return.

The View from Academia

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

The great American-style university: Wishful thinking or feasible project?

RECENTLY, we have been hearing a great deal about the establishment of an American-style university in our part of the world. Several individuals (primarily investors) and private organisations have expressed the desire or intention (publicly and privately) to erect an AUA (American University of Amman), an AUS (American University of Salt), an AUZ (American University of Zarqa), an AUN (American University of Nablus), and so on — the model being of course, and somewhat justifiably so, the American University in Beirut (in its good old days, that is). Others have in mind specific American, British and French universities.

The idea behind all of this is not so much the introduction of any particular Western style of education as in fact the creation of a university which offers quality education. People in our part of the world, including academics and educators, seem to agree that quality education at the university level is generally lacking in our society. We do not have, they all seem to agree, anything that comes close to Harvard, Oxford, the Sorbonne, Princeton, UCLA, etc. And they are right.

One thing must be made clear from the beginning. We do have a lot of respect for our public universities (with respect to private universities, it is still too early to feel or make judgement). Undoubtedly, they have contributed (and still do) to the progress of our society in ways which are obvious and ways which aren't. They do fill an important gap and render a crucial service. Nevertheless, they do not (generally speaking), for reasons which most of us know, live up to our expectations. With the admission policies the way they are (policies which are forced upon the universities by society at large), with their extremely conservative (and somewhat old-fashioned) philosophies of education, with the outdated methods of instruction which many of their faculty members still cherish, with their rusty study plans unto which they cling firmly, with the alarming size of students in many courses, with the hollow campus life, it is indeed amazing that these universities are still alive and kicking and are still contributing. One thing we admit, however, with a grain of salt: even though these universities do have (or have had) their moments or seasons of distinction and glory, their overall performance is largely undistinguished and inglorious.

The crucial matter here then is not whether we actually need a distinguished university or not, for we do; it is, rather, whether it is possible to create a distinguished university in our society or not.

In theory, of course, it is possible. Everything is possible in theory. In practice, it is a difficult matter, very difficult. Notice that I say "difficult," not "impossible."

Allow me, by way of illustrating the difficulty, to tell you the following anecdote which is a true and not hypothetical story.

A few years ago (in 1990 in particular), I took a sabbatical from Yarmouk University with the intention of spending a year at one of our private universities. I had a couple of options to choose from, and the university I chose (let's not name it), I chose because I liked what I heard from the board of directors.

In the press and media, in the interview, and in the various informal gatherings I attended before and after I signed the contract, I was impressed and pleased with what the custodians were saying. They said they wanted "quality education," "distinguished graduates," "sharp minds," "students who know how to think," "meaningful and rich campus life," "a sophisticated syllabus," "an atmosphere of true intellectual exchange," "student involvement in the life of the university and community, etc., i.e. all the things we dream about.

Naive as I was then (I am now a little shrewder, sceptical and wiser), I swallowed all the rhetoric. But it did not take me long to discover that much of what I heard (if not all) was mere words. The series of surprises (too long to be enumerated here) began the first day of work. The first day I arrived on campus, I heard of the various appointments: the president, the dean, the heads of faculties, of public relations, of students activities, etc. I was stunned. While some of those appointed (and I knew the vast majority of them) were very good or excellent people, most were not. Most were either mediocre or extremely inefficient and uncreative. The first question that came to my mind was, how can you create a distinguished university when its academic administrators (or most of them i.e. the "masterminds," were not themselves distinguished. The days which followed proved that my feeling of surprise and disappointment was quite justified, for the first year of the life of that particular university was a disaster. The year over, I thanked God and left.

I shall cite two incidents to illustrate the mentality which "guided" and "led" the university that year. During an informal gathering, some people brought up the question whether the number of students who had registered was substantial enough. One of the "masterminds," who the day before delivered a speech about the institution's insistence to admit only able and exceptional students, said: "Don't you

guys worry about numbers. I can go to the vegetable market now and bring you a 100 students." He was not joking. I have all respect for people who sell vegetables and people who buy vegetables, but isn't there a big difference, when it comes to university admission, between excellent students (or those who are potentially excellent) and "vegetable" heads?

At a general meeting, one person made it known that some faculty members were critical of the way things were going. Another "mastermind," whose face turned red with anger, instead of asking what those "reservations or criticism were," stood up and said: "Those who are not happy with us can pack and leave. I can travel to Egypt tomorrow and get a 100 doctors." And he also was not joking.

During that year, I did not see any serious intellectual encounter, any real campus life (by two o'clock the campus was as deserted as Petra on a January night), any indication that things were different from other humble institutions, one true pride in what people were doing, any promise of a glorious future, and so on.

This is not to say, obviously, that all projects aiming at creating a distinguished university will meet the fate of that particular unhappy project or that we should bury the idea of a distinguished university once and for all. No. What I wish to say here (and this is what has been burning in my chest since that unfortunate sabbatical years) is the following. If we want to erect a truly distinguished university, we have to do our homework right, which is easier said than done in a part of the world in which neglect of homework is as common as flies in the Jordan Valley.

Much needs to be taken seriously and done diligently, if the idea is to come into existence. We need to work hard, to sweat, to select carefully, to scrutinise, to think and debate, and to be honest with ourselves and with others. More specifically, we need to be aware of and to do the following (among other obvious things):

— A university is one thing, a business venture is another thing. There is no doubt, of course, that money is needed to make available a great university. Education is costly: salaries, facilities, equipment, expenses of all types. One may have to pay high tuition to get good education: Harvard is costly, and so are most of the world-renowned universities. But most distinguished universities I know of are not business ventures, even though they are self-supporting. It may be possible for universities to bring money for those who invest in them, but if the sole or primary aim is money, I do not think that the institution will live up to its various educational claims or ideals, for the owners will find themselves going to the vegetable markets to get students and will find themselves importing doctors wholesale.

Behind every great university I know of is an idea, a vision, a real dream, not a dollar, a pound or a dinar. Those who want to establish a great university in our part of the world should ask themselves about their true motives.

— You cannot create a distinguished university, if the leading team you choose to govern it is not itself distinguished, beginning with the guard at the gate and ending with the university council. This, of course, we all know, but how do we go about doing it. Well, difficult no doubt, but worth the effort. And it is effort that we basically want. If we want to appoint a dean or a head of department, what we need to do is our homework. We need to advertise to everyone, and now just to our clique or our buddies. We need to look into the background of the person we choose; I do not choose a person just because he is "experienced" or has "seniority." After a while everybody is "experienced" and everybody has "seniority." Does the fact that someone is older or has been doing the job longer than others make this person more qualified? No. Does the fact that this person has held the same job before make this person more qualified? No, for we now know people in our part of the world are generally selected for jobs. We need to look carefully at the history of this person, from his/her school days into the present, and we have to ask and inquire.

If I want to choose a university professor, for example, I look at his school certificate from Kindergarten to the PhD. Otherwise, why do we have schools and universities? I also look at his publications, at the university he graduated from. I ask his former students about him, I ask his colleagues. I conduct real interviews and listen to him, not lecture at him during the interview, do.

— As for the students, I take the Tawjihi score seriously. But I also look at other things. I ask them to write and examine their writing seriously, for writing is one of the best ways of judging how a person thinks and how much he knows. I also conduct interviews with them. I look at recommendations from teachers. Then I select.

This is what Harvard, Yale and Princeton do.

We need to do this and more if we want to create a distinguished educational institution. Otherwise, what we say either remains in the realm of wishful thinking, of far-fetched dreams, of fantasy, of whim, or materialises into something mediocre or poor.

We have in our society founders with sound motives, excellent academic administrators, talented university professors and superb students. But they are scattered all over and are somewhat marginalised and invisible. The trick is to reach out to them, bring them together and let them be. I seriously doubt that we can do that, even though I hope I will be proven wrong.

Terrorist Israeli movement seems to be reemerging

By Doug Struck

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

— A radical Jewish group claimed that its members shot and killed a Palestinian, this week, suggesting the reemergence of the violent underground movement that has long worried Israeli authorities.

Five men dressed as Israeli soldiers broke into several Palestinian homes near Hebron, rooted the residents, tied up an elderly man and shot to death his son about 1 a.m., according to police reports.

The army said none of its soldiers was in the area.

Later Friday, a group called Eyal, which means "ram" in Hebrew and is an acronym for "Fighting Jewish Organisation," claimed responsibility for the killing.

Eyal intends to step up the struggle in anticipation of the (peace) agreements between Israel and the Palestinians, the group said in a statement sent to journalists.

Police have known previously of Eyal as a group based among the right-wing settlers of Kiryat Arba near Hebron, and an offshoot of Kad, a racist group officially declared a terrorist organisation by Israel.

In March, police found a manual on paramilitary training written by Eyal on a Kiryat Arba demonstrator carrying a loaded pistol.

Israeli police and army officials were cautious about Friday's claim, but they did not discount it.

"All avenues are being pursued," said Boaz Goldberg, a police spokesman. The claim "may possibly" be true, he said.

Palestinians in the town of Hatah, north of Hebron, said the intruders broke into six Palestinian homes early in the morning. The men were dressed as Israeli soldiers, and at least one wore a mask.

Hussein Salman Al Zamama said the men demanded his identity card, and then handcuffed him behind his back. His son, Salman, 25, arrived at his house just then, the elder man told Voice of Palestine Radio.

The soldiers fired two shots. I heard one and then the other. Then I saw my son on the floor." He had been shot in the head.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation's mainstream Fatah faction issued a statement claiming that "an Israeli soldier shot him without any provocation." The army said it had no knowledge of soldiers in the area and said the incident was carried out by a number of unknowns in Israeli Defence uniforms.

Mr. Al Zamama, identified as a Fatah activist, was buried Friday as Palestinians announced a three-day strike. Israeli authorities have long feared that the failure of the right wing to stop the progress of

Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations would result in violent opposition.

They are especially wary of such groups forming among the Jewish settlers of Hebron and adjoining Kiryat Arba, which was the focus of a Jewish underground of the early 1980s.

Members of that group tried to assassinate three Palestinian mayors in 1980, planted bombs on tourist buses and Arab playgrounds, made plans to try to blow up the Dome of the Rock and attacked students in an Islamic college in Hebron in 1983 with a grenade and machine gun.

About 25 of the group members were tried and convicted. But many were quickly released while still publicly boasting of their acts, and critics have long complained that the chief promoter of the group, Rabbi Moshe Levinger, remains free.

As Israel and the Palestinians have moved towards implementing their 1993 peace accord, which promises withdrawal of the Israeli army from Arab population centres in the West Bank, radicals on both sides have fought the peace process.

Since the Israel-PLO accord was signed two years ago, dozens of Israelis have been killed in terrorist attacks, including suicide bus bombs claimed by Hamas and other Islamic fundamentalist groups.

On the Jewish side, one of the bloodiest incidents was an individual act in which a Kiryat Arba settler, physician Baruch Goldstein, killed 29 worshippers at Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron in February 1994.

Israeli authorities have been most worried by organised violence. In December 1993, a group calling itself the "Sword of David" claimed responsibility for the murder of three Palestinian workers near Hebron.

In September and October 1994, police arrested 14 Jewish settlers, including an officer in an elite army unit, on suspicion of gathering weapons and plotting violence against Palestinians.

Security reportedly has been increased around Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. Opponents often denounce both leaders as "traitors" and "murderers."

Mr. Rabin has fanned the anger of those opponents by publicly comparing them to Hamas, the Islamic radical group that has carried out a series of violent acts in opposition to the peace plan.

Baltimore Sun

LETTERS

Wadi Arbaa airport project is well-studied

To the Editor:

IN HIS article, "No justification for a joint Wadi Arbaa airport" (Jordan Times, Sept. 9), Dr. Fahed Al Fanek distorted the true picture for lack of information. We would like to clarify and correct some important aspects concerning the article. It would have been highly appreciated had Dr. Fanek sought valid information about the Aqaba airport development project from the proper authorities.

Jordan is at a transition stage in its history where productive and professional thoughts and ideas are well appreciated and welcome by officials at all times.

The idea of the Wadi Arbaa airport project came after careful study and analysis by officials and after being perceived as beneficial to Jordan in the long run. Thus, the decision to embark on a detailed feasibility study to verify this idea was undertaken and the study will be carried out by the Trade and Development Agency (TDA) and not the USAID as stated by Dr. Fanek. The decision to embark on this is, of course subject and dependent on the outcome of the technical and economic feasibility studies that will involve detailed sensitivity analysis that address the viability of the project under changes in assumptions and postulated circumstance. Thus, it is too early to conclude, as Dr. Fanek has already concluded, that there is "no justification" for this project. We know that Dr. Fanek has the background and education not to judge the feasibility of a project based merely on his feelings but to base his judgement on the results of proper feasibility studies and cost benefit analysis.

The government of Jordan is by no means willing to show readiness for any project merely to "please." Such a view undermines the government and questions its integrity if the party the government is trying to please is other than the people of Jordan. We wonder who is it that Dr. Fanek

suggested that we are trying to please? The government of Jordan has, and is, working hard to gain benefits in the short and long runs from opportunities that the present era of peace presents. Furthermore, only proper cost and benefit calculations and analysis will affect Jordan's decision to embark on this or any other project.

We also try to remind Dr. Fanek of one of the basic principles achieved by such a project and that is "economics of scale." A major advantage of joint projects and financing is achieving economies of scale that result in overall savings and a better utilisation of scarce resources.

Some of the more specific comments on Dr. Fanek's article include:

Dr. Fanek stated that the

More on CD-ROMs

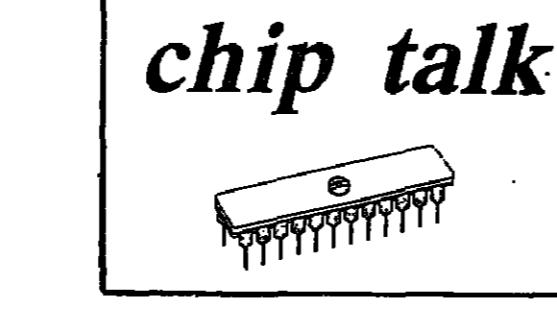
By Jean-Claude Elias

If CD-ROMs (computer digital laser discs) owe their success chiefly to electronic encyclopedias and dictionaries, PC users now have many a reason to acquire a CD-ROM drive and not a single excuse to avoid the purchase. Indeed, in addition to titles that have become classics, like the Encarta and Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedias, and to countless computer games, regular software and programmes are now being distributed on CD-ROM discs instead of regular floppy discs.

Laser discs are infinitely more reliable than magnetic models. In theory, data integrity is maintained for many decades on an optical media. With the large amount of data they can hold and their reduced dimension and weight, CD-ROMs make almost perfect storage devices. It is therefore no surprise that software that used to take several floppy disks is now available in the new laser format.

Microsoft Office Suite for instance, a set comprising "Windows" system, "Word" word processor, "Excel" spreadsheet and "Access" data base, requires about 28 small floppy disks to be stored — a bulky set of 3 boxes of discs. When the user starts the installation procedure for all of the programmes of the Suite, the first disc must be inserted in the PC cabinet until the computer has read all the data it needs from it, then the second disc, and so on until the last one. The operation is long, tedious and risky. For if one of the discs in the whole set is damaged, it may cause the installation to fail. The whole Office Suite easily fits on a single CD-ROM disc. Floppy medias are read and write devices and as such they are easily infected by viruses, while CD-ROMs are read-only and cannot be attacked by the dreaded "creatures".

Last week, following the much publicised launch of Windows 95, many of those users who ordered the software on floppy instead of CD-ROM, had one of their diskettes (floppy disc) destroyed by a virus. Microsoft did replace



chip talk

the damaged diskette but a lot of time and effort was wasted. More and more users are relying on the safety and convenience offered by laser technology for data storage.

Initially, CD-ROMs had a much slower access time than magnetic hard disks. The first single-speed units manufactured claimed a disastrous 600 ms (millisecond) performance. By comparison, hard discs work at about 10 to 18 ms. The current double-speed CD-ROM boasts 300 ms and the most recent models, quad-speed and "6 x speed" have attained 150 ms. The transfer rate, the amount of data that the drive can read and move from the disc to the computer, per second, is equally important and is generally proportional to the access time. Speed of access and high transfer rates are not only a luxury that saves time, they become an absolute requirement for some applications like advanced multimedia, music or Photo Sessions (a Kodak technique).

Older models of CD-ROM drives required additional caddies, a small plastic container in which one would insert the disc, and then the caddie would be inserted in the drive — a time-consuming and useless operation. New drives are caddie-free, have motorised loading, and plenty of front controls for audio output and tracking. They make operating the device a pleasure.

Double-speed units are being advertised at about JD100. Can you resist?

JTV CHANNEL TWO WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday,

Sept. 14, 1995

1:00 Iris - The Happy Professor
1:15 Fireman Sam
1:30 My Secret Identity
2:00 N.B.A.
3:00 Bill Eye The Science Guy
3:30 Take Your Pick
4:00 Dead Men's Tales
4:20 I witness Video
5:00 Children's Programme
Rahan — "Les Enfants Du Fleuve"
5:30 Varieties And Game Show
Le Monde Est A Vous
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Court Metrage
Vision
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 National Geographic
8:30 The Album Show
9:15 Murder She Wrote
10:00 News In English
10:25 Movie — Crimson Dawn
Starring: Franco Nero & Karin Giegerich
11:50 Shogun
12:30 Perfect Strangers

Friday,

Sept. 15, 1995

1:00 Read A Lee Deed A Lee
1:15 Beethoven
1:30 Why I Didn't Think Of That
2:00 White Fang
2:30 Movie — The Old Man And The Sea
Starring: Anthony Quinn & Gary Cole
4:00 Crystal Maze
5:00 Children's Programme
Rahan — "La Mort De Rahan"
5:30 Telefilm — Les Femmes Et Les Enfants D'Abord
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine
E=M6
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 African Skies
8:00 Coach
8:30 Documentary — Nomads Of The Wind
9:15 Danger Field
10:00 News In English
10:25 Movie — Mercy Mission:
The Rescue Of Flight 771
Starring: Robert Loggia & Scott Bakula
11:50 Elvis In Hollywood

Saturday,

Sept. 16, 1995

2:00 Back To The Future
2:30 Harry And The Hendersons
3:00 Road To Avonlea
3:30 Football Match
5:00 Children's Programme
5:30 Documentary
Les Bicentenaires Du Louvre
6:00 Drama Series
Operation Open I Et 2
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine — Faut Pas Rever
News Headlines
7:35 The Ozone Alarm
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:10 Women Of The World
9:10 Dr. Quinn Medicine Woman
"The Tale Of A Modern Woman In The Old West"
10:00 News In English
10:25 Movie — Overkill
Starring: Jean Smart & Park Overall
11:50 Noble House

Sunday,

Sept. 17, 1995

2:00 The Flintstones
2:30 Joshua Jones
2:45 The Mighty Jungle
3:00 Pugw-will's Summer
3:30 Football Match
4:00 Families
4:30 Children's Programme
Les Mondes Engloutis

5:30 Serie — L'Instit
Le J.A.P.
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine
Ushuaia: Le Magazine De L'Extreme
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 Cinema, Cinema
8:00 Nurses
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:15 Strathblair
10:00 News In English
10:25 Counter Strike
11:10 Return To Eden
12:30 Keeping Up Appearances

Monday,

Sept. 18, 1995

2:00 The Animals Of Farthing Wood
Hey Dad!
3:00 Survival
4:00 Families
5:00 Children Programme
Les Mondes Engloutis Rahan
5:30 Telefilm
A Dieu Les Rosles
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 French Varieties
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 Camp Wilder
8:00 McHale's Navy
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:10 Hart Of The West
10:00 News In English
10:25 The Ruth Rendell's Mysteries
Kissing The Gunner's Daughter
11:30 Movie — The Dream Team
Starring: Michael Keaton & Christopher Lloyd

Tuesday,

Sept. 19, 1995

2:00 Captain Planet
M.A.N.T.I.S.
3:00 Road To Avonlea
4:00 Families
5:00 Children's Programme
Les Mondes Engloutis
5:30 Magazine
Montagne
Varieties
Taratata
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine
Faut Pas Reve
7:35 You Bet Your Life
8:00 Piglet Files
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:15 True Blue
10:00 News In English
10:25 Trade Winds
11:30 Glass Virgin
12:00 Grace Under Fire
12:30 Varieties

Wednesday,

Sept. 20, 1995

2:00 Inspector Gadget
Super Champs
3:00 Tomorrow's World
3:30 Amazing Stories
4:00 Families
5:00 Children's Programme
Les Aventures De Nestor Burma
5:30 Detective Telefilm
Les Aventures De Nestor Durma
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine
Ushuaia, Le Magazine De L'Extreme
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 Arthur C. Clarke's Mysterious Universe
8:00 Anything For A Laugh
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:15 Sea Powers
10:00 News In English
10:25 Prism
10:40 Blue Skies
11:45 Silk Road
12:30 Varieties

The early bird catches the worm...er, maybe

By Samer Ghaleb Bagaaen

Today, this column gives you the chance to put your minds at ease and put forward any queries you may have into our great big computer that, as our supplier assures us, could answer any question laid before it. However, be warned that your queries will only be received through E-mail.

— Now that it has become permissible and fashionable to talk about traffic problems and special yellow paint for roads, does this also mean that it has become possible to call drivers misguided, irresponsible and stupid?

— Dear person, while your query is both legitimate and just, it will do you no good if you indulge in such oddities for there must be far more important issues out there that you, or anyone else, should be talking about.

— If we are truly worried about the congestion caused by the cars of expatriates during the summer months, then why don't we make them leave their cars at the borders and travel through public transport?

— Dear person, while your query is both legitimate and just, it will do you no good if you indulge in such oddities for there must be far more important issues out there that you, or anyone else, should be talking about.

— Universities now seem to have a case for raising their fees. It would seem all folly, but one cannot help but wonder whether the whole fuss was about thinking up an excuse to make a case for raising the fees stamped with everyone's approval. Could such a scenario be, in the remotest sense plausible?

— Dear person, while your query is both legitimate and just, it will do you no good if you indulge in such oddities for there must be far more important issues out there that you, or anyone else, should be talking about.

— While promoting foreign investment seems to take priority over raising the prices through hikes in sales taxes, how far does any country have to go before it is made more attractive for businessmen?

— Dear person, while your query is both legitimate and just, it will do you no good if you indulge in such oddities for there must be far more important issues out there that you, or anyone else, should be talking about.

— If our university graduates are not the only ones around the world who have a problem in finding a job after their graduation as, admittedly, this is a common problem the world over, what the hell is all the fuss about?

— Dear person, while your query is both legitimate and just, it will do you no good if you indulge in such oddities for there must be far more important issues out there that you, or anyone else, should be talking about.

— While a case has been put forward for involving local people in tourism beyond their roles as guides, porters or trackers, or as waiters, sellers of arts and crafts or models for photographs, do we even know what these people's vision of development is or whether it involves tourists in the first place?

— Dear person, while your query is both legitimate and just, it will do you no good if you indulge in such oddities for there must be far more important issues out there that you, or anyone else, should be talking about.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

* In Mexico City, 180 mummies, preserved in a special museum, are placed in glass coffins for show.

* Snow Flake City in the United States was named after two of its founders Erastus "Snow" and William "Flake."

* An American possesses a collection of 10,000 kinds of books which the Australian aborigines used for fishing.

* In 1969, two Americans sailed in a dual rowing boat from Minnesota to Lake Ontario covering a distance of 11,000 kilometres.

* Astronomers have discovered a cloud containing 10 trillion litres of alcohol. This cloud is said to be the largest in the solar system and lying at a distance of 10,000 light years.

* In the past, tennis was called "the cat ball."

LETS CHAT IN ARABIC

- The air is fresh.
- The moon is shining.
- The heat is unbearable.
- The sky is clear.
- The sea is rough.
- The rain is heavy.
- The wind is calm.
- The mountains are high.
- The oceans are deep.
- The street is empty.
- The beach is crowded.
- The car is new.

Al-hawa' alli.
Al-qamar yasta'.
Al-harara la tuhtamal.
Al-sama' saafia.
Al-bahr ha'ji'.
Al-matar ghazir.
Ar-reeh saakin.
Al-jibal salia.
Al-muheetat ameeqa.
Ash'sharie khalaen.
Ash'ahaani' muzdahim.
As'sayara jadeeda.

TIME FOR FUN

* An extravagant woman sent a telegram to her hard-hearing husband:

— "Send us fifty dinars."

In reply, the man wrote back:

— "What did you say?"

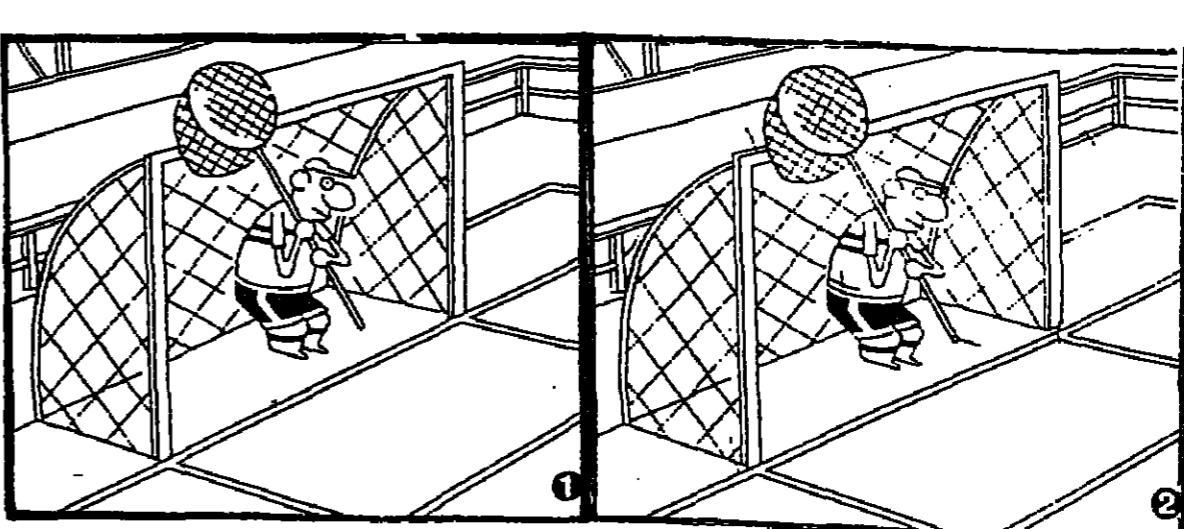
* MOTHER: This fridge is so splendid that it preserves all foods for a whole month.

DAUGHTER: During a whole month? So, what could we eat then?

PUZZLE ME!

THERE ARE EIGHT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO CARTOONS

CAN YOU SPOT THEM?



Please don't feed the sculpture — London's living art

By Ron Kampeas
The Associated Press

LONDON — Nestled among art-lovers oohing and aahing the latest sculpture ("she's beautiful"), three art students are sketching the piece.

Hardly an uncommon gallery scene — until the sketchers shift because the "piece" has yawned and turned over.

The *Maybe*, an art exhibit with actress Tilda Swinton sleeping under glass as its centerpiece, has been drawing the curious to London's Serpentine Gallery — together with kudos and calls.

"The fundamental question is, what's it got to do with art?" said Brian Sewell, one of London's most caustic art critics. "It would be much better off, let's say, in Madame Tussaud's."

Swinton, acclaimed for her androgynous portrayals in films such as the late Derek Jarman's *Edward II* and *Sally Potter's Orlando*, conceived the show with sculptress Cornelia Parker, whose last show featured household junk she had exploded.In a flier handed out at the event, Parker described *The Maybe* as "an enigmatic and evocative work, exploring a series of essential, unanswered questions." Swinton was "the subject of her own narrative."By Claudia Parsons
Reuter

VENICE, Italy — A new film about the brutal murder of Italian director and poet Pier Paolo Pasolini has reopened a question that has troubled Italians for two decades — was Pasolini the victim of a sinister conspiracy?

Marxist poet, blasphemous film director and declared homosexual, Pasolini died in the early hours of Nov. 2, 1975, after picking up a male prostitute at Rome's Termini Railway Station.

He was beaten around the head, kicked in the groin and run over by his own Alfa Romeo sports car.

The prostitute, 17-year-old Pino Pelosi, confessed to the murder hours after the body was found. He has always maintained he acted alone in a moment of rage after Pasolini, 53 when he died, made violent sexual advances.

But Marco Tullio Giordana's film *Pasolini*, an Italian Crime shows there was substantial forensic evidence to suggest that Pelosi had at least one accomplice, if not more. That was also the conclusion of the first trial.

Pelosi was sentenced to nine years in prison. He is now back in jail for other offenses.

"In the end I am completely convinced of the conclusions of the judges in the first trial who found Pelosi guilty of murder in complicity with unknown accomplices," Giordana said before the movie's premiere at the Venice Film Festival.

Subsequent trials in the appeals courts did not mention the accomplices, and there were no further investigations.

Giordana is reluctant to use the word "conspiracy."

That sort of fuzziness gave English critics, famously eager to trash pseudos, a field day.

"Are women capable of coherent thought? There's an unanswerable question for you," Sewell told the *Guardian* newspaper, summing at the £7,000 (\$11,200) Arts Council grant that made the show possible.

While the critics booted, other gallery-goers were genuinely moved.

The *Daily Mail* said only Swinton's restraint commended her. "She never makes contact with the motley crowd who come to observe her," it said. "Perhaps because both might burst out laughing.""Maybe it's art, maybe it isn't," editorialised the *Guardian*. "Maybe if I hang around long enough, she'll have to go for a pee."

Not likely. Swinton, on display from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. for a week, practised getting her body rhythms in sync before the week-long exhibit.

She stayed up nights for a week, taking herbal baths, so she could sleep days — although Parker acknowledged that some of the prospective excitement was in the actress feigning sleep, while eavesdropping on commentary.

Swinton lies in the booth on a thin white mattress, clutching her pillow, accompanied only by a tall glass of water set in a clamp, and her

spectacles lying next to her. Watched over by two security guards, she snoozes in jeans, a man's shirt, Tai-Chi slippers and gray socks.

"After all, one has to suffer for one's art," critic Robert Hewison smirked as he contemplated Swinton.

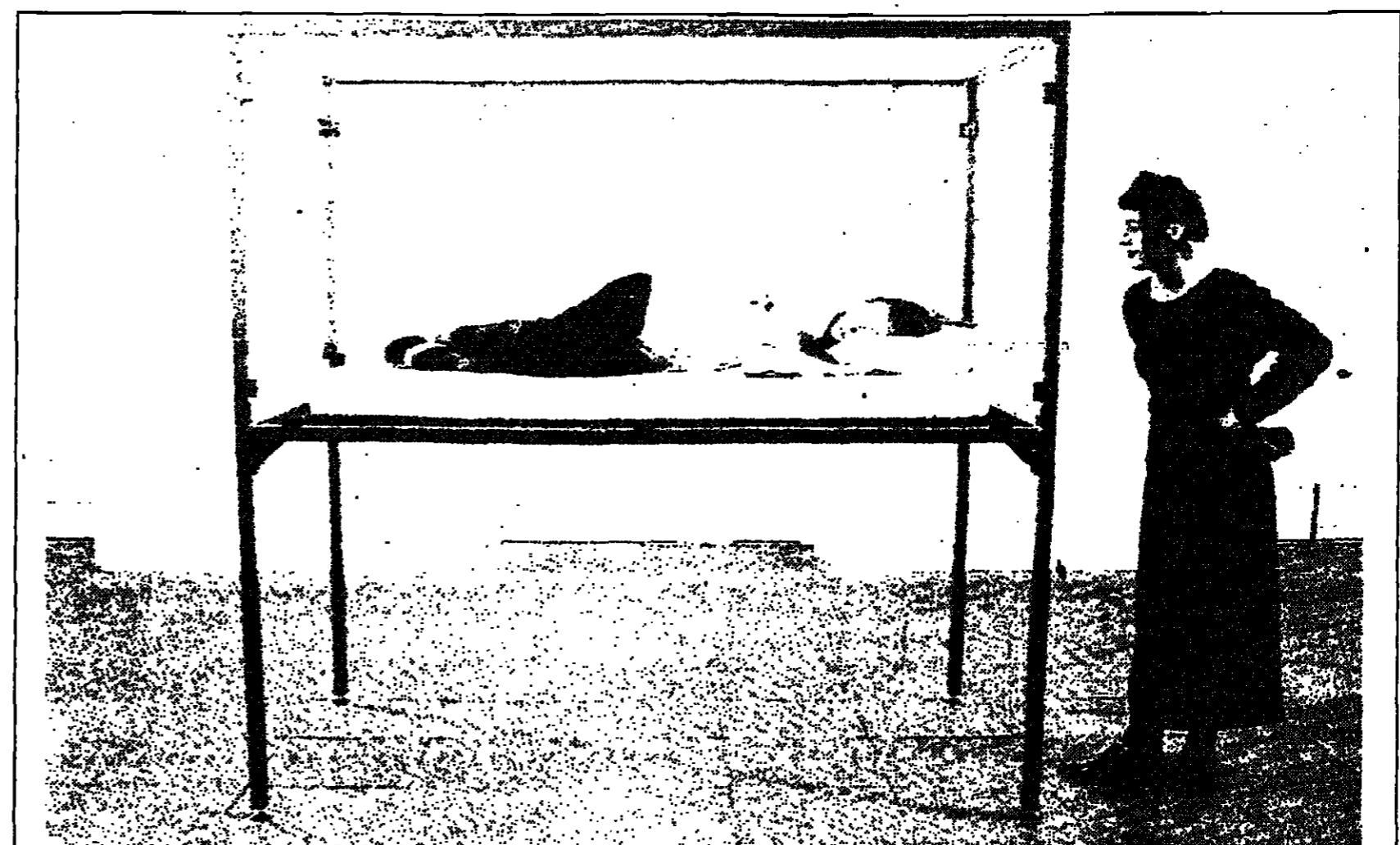
While the critics booted, other gallery-goers were genuinely moved.

"I feel like I'm intruding," said Gruny Brenner, a painter. "It's like I'm walking in on an animal in its cage. I don't feel comfortable and art is meant to disturb you, after all."

The exhibit in the converted teahouse, set in the staid lawns of Kensington Gardens, is in fact disquieting, a sensation Parker unfortunately undermines with her own "unanswerable questions" gibberish.

Before reaching Tilda, viewers walk past carefully selected glass-enclosed minutiae that belonged to the famous dead.

Florence Nightingale's school slate, her name and "from mama" scratched along the border in a childish hand; the hat David Livingstone wore when he encountered Henry Stanley at the source of the Nile in 1871, facing the pith helmet Stanley was wearing; Queen Victoria's unexpectedly small stocking; the cigar that tumbled out of Winston

British actress Tilda Swinton sleeps in a glass box as part of an exhibition called *The Maybe* at the Serpentine Gallery (AFP photo)

Churchill's mouth when he learned that the Germans were ready to surrender.

The objects shrink monoliths to tangibility, and remind the viewer that great

men and women were mortal and even endearing.

The objects shrink monoliths to tangibility, and remind the viewer that great

man's watch engulfs her wrist, the blonde roots of her red hair are clearly visible, her knuckles whitened as she clutches the pillow.

Children at the exhibit got

it quickly, identifying Swinton with other vulnerabilities like *Sleeping Beauty* and *Snow White*. Grown-ups also found points of reference.

"I keep looking at the glasses," said John McCarron, a bespectacled civil servant. "What happens if she rolls over and crushes them?"

Italian film
re-opens Pasolini
murder case

but the film is full of hints that someone in power blocked the investigations and that there were important people who did not want to see the truth uncovered.

"At the time the magistracy was a united block under the watch of the political powers and the institutions, and so it was hostile to Pasolini," he told Reuters in an interview.

"Now the magistrates have changed a lot, so if someone sees new elements in the film, technically they can open a new investigation," he said.

The Pasolini family's lawyer, Nino Marazzini, in Venice for the film's showing, told reporters he had made an official request for the case to be re-opened.

Pasolini was an outspoken critic of Italy's political establishment in the 1970s when corruption was rife and there were rumours of state involvement in a wave of extremist violence attributed to fascists, anarchists and Communists.

In an article published a few months before his death and quoted in the film, Pasolini said he knew who was responsible for a series of bombings — now dubbed "state massacres" by newspapers — that killed dozens in the early 1970s.

"I know all these names and I know all the crimes of which they are guilty. I know, but I don't have the

Rogopag. Many of his films were slammed for excessive sex and violence.

Both his *Canterbury Tales* and *Salo* — The 120 Days Of Sodom were declared obscene by the courts and their release in Italy was delayed.The atmosphere of seedy back-street violence that surrounded Pasolini's death bore an uncanny resemblance to much of his work, including *Accattone*, the film based on his own novel "una vita violenta" (A Violent Life).

The movie is a grim depiction of the sordid life of a pimp in a squalid working-class section of Rome where Pasolini had lived in the 1940s.

"In the end he was the victim of his own characters — a perfect tragedy foreseen in its own aspects — without knowing that one day it would end up overcoming him," fellow Italian director Michelangelo Antonioni said after the murder.

Giordana's film mixes modern reconstruction with historical footage from the aftermath of the murder, including pictures of Pasolini's funeral with an address by one of Italy's leading modern writers, the late Alberto Moravia.

"Above all we have lost a poet. And of poets there are not many born — three or four in a century," said Moravia.

"At the start I had thought to make a film of Pasolini's life, a biography starting from his childhood," Giordana said.

"But then I was inspired by the words of Pasolini himself, who said that a man's death makes a sort of collage of his life and gives the sense of his life."

Broken-boned Jackie Chan is proud to be his own stuntman

By John Leicester
The Associated Press

HONG KONG — Listening to Jackie Chan list the fractures and wounds he has picked up as Asia's favorite movie star is like touring a hospital emergency room. Starting with his hands, Chan begins to count — about five broken fingers, both elbows, a shoulder ("the bone came out," he says nonchalantly), collar bone, hip, nose (three times), both ankles, assorted vertebrae and toes.

And topping them all, there's a wide hole in his head from the time he jumped onto a tree but missed because he turned his head to ensure the camera caught his face.

Pain, however, is an occupational hazard for this mus-

cular 5-foot-9 (1.75-metre) bundle of energy with a baby face and mop-top haircut.

With a potential audience of more than 2 billion Asians, Chan could claim to be the world's most visible movie star, and his appeal is enhanced by his insistence on doing his stunts himself, even if that makes him uninsurable.

"The more a movie is a success, the more the audience likes it, the more it makes me crazy," Chan said in an interview, explaining why he has spent 20 years fighting, plunging off buildings, jumping onto trains or hot-air balloons — anything to fill movie theaters.

Chan says he's used to injury. Besides, he makes up for it in wealth and legions of fans who stake out his

office in northern Hong Kong hoping for a glimpse of Shing Long, or become a dragon, as Chan is known in Chinese.

Dressed in sweat pants and sleeveless, tight T-shirt, Chan is a constant flurry of activity. He jumps about his award-cluttered office and uses his arms and face to act out what he can't express in his rough-and-ready English.

Chan's assistants say he doesn't really relax, but instead amuses himself with sideline businesses — sportswear, shops and his latest project, bottled mineral water.

He also runs a charity, acts as a guide for other actors, and starred in an AIDS awareness campaign on television.

Until recently, Chan hid the fact that he's going steady and has a son because when he said he had a woman friend, "a girl committed suicide on the subway. Another girl, in front of my office, took poison."

Instead, he decided that whenever he was asked about romantic attachments, he would answer: "I have no sex life."

Born Chan Kong-Sang in 1954, Chan was 7 when his parents moved to Australia, leaving him at a Hong Kong theatre school which drilled him in "everything — acrobatics, kung fu, karate, judo... I liked fighting."

After stints as a child actor and stuntman, Chan was picked for *New Fist Of Fury* in 1976. More straight kung fu films followed, but they

flopped against the overwhelming dominance of the late, great Bruce Lee. So Chan decided to break out of Lee's shadow and develop what are now his hallmarks — spectacular stunts, acrobatics and slapstick.

"Bruce Lee kicked high, I kicked low," Chan explains. "Bruce Lee punched with an 'aahh', after I punched, I made a funny face." He let himself be beaten up by a grandmother. He would hit an opponent and shake his fingers in mock agony.

The recipe was a hit. At 41, Chan still fills theaters at a time when Hong Kong filmgoers are turning to Hollywood because too many of the 150-plus movies Hong Kong yearly churns out are low-budget yaws.

His latest film, a car-racing

adventure titled *Thunderbolt*, premiered in August and cost \$25.6 million, a record for Hong Kong.

One audience Chan has failed to crack, however, is America, and after a stint in Hollywood which include the cannonball run in 1981, Chan gave up.

"I would rather be a king in Asia. I don't want to be a small fish, a small star in America," he says. "Americans won't accept Oriental people. They won't accept Oriental films."

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To convince the audience of Chan's daredevilry, his films show outtakes of botched stunts during the credits.

In *Armour Of God II*, a 1991 Indiana Jones-style hunt for Nazi gold, Chan wriggles along a chain suspended in the air. It looks easy. But an outtake shows him falling off and hitting the ground like a mailbag, knocking himself out.

In the 1983 pirate adventure *Project A*, Chan falls from a clock tower through two cloth awnings, gets up off the ground and finishes the scene. The outtake shows him bouncing off an awning, hitting the dirt head first and being scooped up wobbly-kneed and grimacing in pain.

"Do you think an American action star can do that?" he asks proudly.

Chan has used the same camera and stunt team for 10 years because they can match his speed and rhythm, and give him the confidence to do his stunts. Hollywood stunts are "computer, everything computer," he says disdainfully. "Everything we do is real... before I fight, I sit down with all my stunt team... boom da-da, da-da-da-da."

Chan says he'll retire in three years to direct, but he dreams of working with George Lucas or Steven Spielberg, mixing special effects with his own real action. "I want to see what happens," he said. "If it works maybe I can still be an action star at 90."

Study: 20 years of Aspirin use cuts colon cancer risk in half

BOSTON (AP) — Taking an Aspirin every other day for 20 years can cut your risk of colon cancer nearly in half, a study suggests.

Many studies in recent years have shown that people who regularly use Aspirin reduce their risk of colon and rectal cancer. But two important questions remained: How much should they take? And how long should they take it?

A large new study of women nurses found that the risk falls when people take

as little as four to six Aspirin a week. But the benefits do not kick in until at least a decade of use.

Researchers who conducted the study said they believe the findings apply to men.

Many doctors already routinely recommend that men and women over 50 take an adult-strength Aspirin every other day — or a half-strength baby Aspirin every day, if that's easier to remember — to lower their risk of heart disease, another

well-established benefit of Aspirin.

Animal studies suggest that some other over-the-counter pain relievers, such as Ibuprofen, might also prevent colon cancer. However, most of these medicines have not been widely available for decades, like Aspirin has been, so doctors cannot be sure of their long-term effects.

In the United States, where the study was conducted, colon and rectal cancer are the second leading cancer

killer after lung cancer. It will kill an estimated 55,300 Americans this year.

The latest findings were based on the nurses' health study, which has followed the health of 121,701 nurses since 1976. It was published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

A team led by Dr. Edward Giovannucci of Harvard Medical School found that the benefits of Aspirin for the colon develop slowly.

During the first decade of taking Aspirin regularly,

users were just as likely as other people to get cancer.

There was a slight reduction for those who took it for 10 to 19 years, but it was not statistically meaningful.

However, after 20 years of Aspirin use, the advantages became clear: Users have a 44 per cent reduction in the chance of getting colon and rectal cancer.

Experts theorise the benefits are slow to materialise because Aspirin works only on the earliest stage of the

disease. They believe it stops the growth of polyps in the colon that may, over time, become cancerous.

How it does this is unclear. Researchers suspect it may result from Aspirin's ability to block production of substances called prostaglandins, which may regulate cell growth, among other things.

Aspirin can cause stomach irritation and bleeding, and Dr. Giovannucci cautioned that people should not begin

using it to ward off heart disease and colon cancer without consulting their doctors.

In an editorial in the Journal, Dr. Aaron J. Marcus of New York Veterans Affairs Medical Centre recommended every-other-day Aspirin use by people who are at especially high risk of colon and rectal cancer. These include those with inflammatory bowel disease, a family member with colon cancer or a history of cancer of the breast, uterus or ovaries.

"You need very solid experimental evidence before you can make broad public health recommendations," Dr. Thun said.

Potential AIDS risk seen in medical, dental devices

By Malcolm Ritter
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A chemical disinfectant used on some medical and dental devices can fail to kill the AIDS virus, posing a potential risk of infecting patients, a study suggests.

Researchers found that in the laboratory, the disinfectant did not kill the AIDS virus in blood lodged in lubricants commonly used in dental equipment and in medical devices called endoscopes, which are inserted into the body to allow an interior view.

None of the devices has ever been shown to be the cause of HIV transmission from patient to patient, said

researcher David Lewis, a microbiologist at the University of Georgia in Athens.

In the study, published by Mr. Lewis and another researcher in the September issue of the journal *Nature Medicine*, the AIDS virus survived after the contaminated lubricants were soaked for two hours in a powerful germ-killer called glutaraldehyde.

Mr. Lewis said the study emphasises the need to sterilise dental equipment at extremely high temperatures, as recommended by the federal government and the American Dental Association.

Mr. Lewis said it is possible that contaminated dental equipment caused the case of Florida dentist Dr. David Acer, who infected six of his patients with the AIDS virus

before he died. But Dr. Lewis said that possibility still remained unlikely, and that his study does not prove how the infections happened.

And, he said, the experiment failed to mimic all of the steps of the decontamination procedure used on gastrointestinal endoscopes each year, Dr. Lewis said.

"It doesn't appear to be a clinical problem," Dr. Lewis said.

The rate of passing along other germs is about once in every 1.5 million procedures, Dr. Lewis said. "So overall, the record of doing this procedure has been safe with regard to infectious diseases," he said

Scientists deprive cancer cells of their immortality

causing them to lose their "immortality" and die within weeks.

The scientists said their experiment provided "proof of principle" of a discovery made last year of how cancer cells escape a normal process believed to cause most cells in the body to grow old and die.

Dr. Harley said the gene

(drugs) that we are testing, but they are not ready for trial in human beings," Dr. Harley added.

The researchers also warned that they have yet to determine whether blocking the anti-aging mechanism could harm normal parts of the body, adding that there was evidence that blood-forming cells also use the same mechanism.

Carol Greider of the Cold Spring Harbour Laboratory on Long Island, New York, said her group was studying the process in mice to learn how it functions so they can test a possible drug treatment for the animals.

"We have candidates

causing them to lose their "immortality" and die within weeks.

The scientists said their experiment provided "proof of principle" of a discovery made last year of how cancer cells escape a normal process believed to cause most cells in the body to grow old and die.

Dr. Harley said the gene

therapy was not likely to become viable for human tests in the near future, but that Geron and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre in New York had received a federal grant to jointly develop a drug that accomplishes the same goal of blocking the anti-aging mechanism in cancer cells.

"We're making progress," Dr. Harley said. "We're on track," said Calvin Harley, who heads a scientific group at Geron Corp. of Menlo Park, California, whose experiments were reported in the *Journal of Science*.

The report said that malignant cells that had been growing for decades in a laboratory dish were doused with laboratory-made genes

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

TAKE THAT!
By Norma Steinberg

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13. *Solving*, briefly
14. *Performance*
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16. *Repaired* shoe
17. *Own* et *Snow*
18. *Wife* et *Friends*
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ARAB BANK

Dear Shareholders and Clients of Arab Bank

As we commemorate the 65th anniversary of the establishment of Arab Bank, we look with pride at the achievements of the institution. Arab Bank stands strong with a total balance sheet exceeding US\$ 21 billion and total equity of more than US\$ 1.2 billion. The Bank has expanded beyond regional boundaries and now operates in the major financial centres in the world. The people of Arab Bank have proven themselves capable of competing successfully in many environments. This by itself highlights the mission of the Bank which is based on the belief in the abilities of the Arab nation. Arab Bank has followed an operational policy distinguished by a dedication to serving customers. The management of Arab Bank has also safeguarded the rights of shareholders and has worked diligently to make the Bank grow and prosper. The numbers in this Statement of Condition speak for themselves. The data underlines the strengths of Arab Bank's financial position and reflects the Bank's ability to operate efficiently and adapt effectively to the changing factors influencing the banking industry. Now as we are about to enter the 21st century, I would like to extend our continued support to our shareholders and clients. As we have done in the past, we will work to serve you to the best of our abilities.

Abdulmajeed A.H. Shoman / Chairman, Board of Directors

Balance Sheet as of 30 June 1995 and 1994

| Assets | 1995 | | 1994 | | Liabilities and | 1995 | | 1994 | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| | JOD ('000) | JOD ('000) | JOD ('000) | JOD ('000) | | Shareholders' Equity | JOD ('000) | JOD ('000) | JOD ('000) |
| Cash and due from banks | 3,666,962 | | 3,513,264 | | Deposits and other accounts | 7,781,667 | | 6,996,234 | |
| Securities and investments | 1,149,939 | | 975,258 | | Acceptances | 142,754 | | 104,567 | |
| Loans and advances | 3,375,875 | | 2,882,059 | | Accrued interest payable | 65,111 | | 40,402 | |
| Customers' liability on | | | | | Other liabilities | 47,674 | | 40,808 | |
| acceptances | 142,754 | | 104,567 | | Capital | 44,000 | | 44,000 | |
| Premises and equipment | 50,641 | | 48,629 | | Statutory reserve | 44,000 | | 44,000 | |
| Accrued interest receivable | 81,032 | | 45,893 | | Voluntary reserve | 94,000 | | 75,000 | |
| Other assets | 57,003 | | 44,341 | | General reserve | 305,000 | | 269,000 | |
| Total Assets | 8,524,206 | | 7,614,011 | | Total Liabilities and | | | | |
| Customers' liability on | | | | | Shareholders' Equity | 8,524,206 | | 7,614,011 | |
| guarantees and letters of credit | 3,056,341 | | 2,775,189 | | Guarantees and letters of credit | 3,056,341 | | 2,775,189 | |
| Total | 11,580,547 | | 10,389,200 | | Total | 11,580,547 | | 10,389,200 | |

Net profit for the period ended 30 June 1995 and 30 June 1994 was included in "Other liabilities"

ARAB BANK

Main branches in the Arab countries

| Branch | Country (No. of branches) | P.O.Box | Telephone | Facsimile |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Shmeisani, Amman | Jordan (71) | 950546 | 607231 | 670564 |
| King Faisal St. Amman | | 68 | 638161 | 637082 |
| Ramallah | West Bank (5) | 1487 | 9954822 | 9954824 |
| Gaza | Gaza Strip (1) | 91 | 866288 | 820704 |
| Manama O.B.U. | Bahrain (1) | 813 | 212255 | 231640 |
| Manama | Bahrain (3) | 395 | 255988 | 210443 |
| Cairo | Egypt (5) | 2006 | 5746218 | 5746165 |
| Riad Solh St., Beirut | Lebanon (11) | 11-1015 | 860474 | 860651 |
| Tripoli | | 379 | 430111 | 433033 |
| Saida | | 199 | 724501 | 721482 |
| Doha | Qatar (2) | 172 | 437979 | 410774 |
| Abu Dhabi | U.A.E. (8) | 875 | 334111 | 336433 |
| Dubai | | 11364 | 228845 | 285974 |
| Sana'a | Yemen (4) | 475 | 276584 | 276583 |

Main branches in Europe, Asia and U.S.A.

| Branch | Country (No. of branches) | P.O.Box | Telephone | Facsimile |
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| Nicosia | Cyprus (5) | 5650 | 457111 | 367741 |
| Paris | France (2) | 319 | 45616000 | 42890978 |
| Athens | Greece (1) | 30357 | 3255401 | 3255519 |
| Rome | Italy (1) | 745 | 69940479 | 6795601 |
| Madrid | Spain (2) | | 3084290 | 3086482 |
| London | U.K. (3) | 138 | 3158500 | 6007620 |
| Singapore | Singapore (1) | | 5330055 | 5322150 |
| Seoul | S. Korea (1) | 1331 | 7570024 | 7570124 |
| New York | U.S.A. (2) | 5377 | 7159700 | 5934632 |

Representative office Beijing (Peking) China Tel. 5002255 (ext.3510) Fax 5003275

Sister, Subsidiary and associated companies

| Country | P.O.Box | Telephone | Facsimile |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Arab Bank (Switzerland) Ltd. Zurich | 5281 | 2657111 | 2657330 |
| | 1096 | 7151211 | 7322460 |
| Arab Bank Australia Ltd. Sydney | N-645 | 2324133 | 2215428 |
| Arab Bank (Austria) AG Vienna | 100 | 5134240 | 51342409 |
| Arab Bank AG Frankfurt | 100127 | 242590 | 235471 |
| Finance, Accountancy, Mohassaba S.A. | 1506 | 7326003 | 7387229 |
| Arab Tunisian Bank Tunis | 520 | 350147 | 349278 |
| Oman Arab Bank S.A.O. Ruwi | 2010 | 706265 | 797736 |
| Arab Bank Maroc Casablanca | 13810 | 223152 | 200233 |
| Arab National Bank Riyadh | 56921 | 4029000 | 4027747 |

Sister, Subsidiary & Associated Companies

| Arab Bank | Percentage of Ownership |
|--|-------------------------|
| Arab Bank (Switzerland) Ltd. - Zurich, Geneva | 100% |
| Arab Bank Australia Ltd. - Sydney | 100% |
| Arab Bank (Austria) AG - Vienna | 100% |
| Arab Bank AG - Frankfurt / Germany | 100% |
| Finance , Accountancy, Mohassaba S.A. - Geneva | 100% |
| Arab Tunisian Bank - Tunis | 64% |
| Arab Bank Maroc - Morocco | 50% |
| Oman Arab Bank - Oman | 49% |
| Arab National Bank - Saudi Arabia | 40% |



Export credit guarantee programme takes off

** THE JORDAN Loan Guarantee Corporation (JLGC) was given an additional function after the general assembly approved expanding the role of the corporation into the export credit guarantee area. The general assembly also approved raising the capital of the JLGC from JD 7 million to JD 10 million. The Central Bank, which has a JD 3 million stake in the corporation, will immediately provide JD 1 million of the capital increase to bring its total equity to JD 4 million. Jamal Salah, JLGC's director-general, revealed that the Central Bank funds were in fact grants from the U.S. Agency for International Aid (USAID) - which, financially and technically, has backed the corporation and the launching of the export credit guarantee programme. The new scheme will be implemented in two stages. Dr. Salah said, the first of which to begin in early 1996. It would provide guarantees to small exporters to obtain about 75 per cent of working capital needs from any bank in Jordan including the Export Development Bank when it starts operations. These guarantees will provide security to lending banks in Jordan should exporters fail to repay the pre-shipment credit. The second stage, known as post-shipment credit, will be implemented in the future. Dr. Salah said without providing a specific date. JLGC was set up in 1994 by the Central Bank and 23 other institutions, mostly banks, to provide small and medium-sized projects with guarantees to enable them obtain loans from the local banks. The move towards expanding JLGC's role into export credit guarantees started after the Lower House turned down a project to set up an independent institution for that purpose.

According to Dr. Salah, the JLGC has started receiving applications and has signed contracts with 20 banks, of which three were foreign, to process requests for export credits. He said a total of JD 4.25 million ceiling was arranged for all banks with different ceiling for each (Al Ra'i + Al Dustour).

** CENTRAL BANK Governor Mohammad Said Al Nabulsi said that the issuance of a JD 50 banknote was only an idea at present and has been under study from all aspects for the past two years. He added that if a decision is to be taken now, it would still take two years of design and printing work before the JD 50 bill enters the market. He considered those who spread devaluation rumours as seizing this opportunity to manipulate exchange rate in an unethical manner. He revealed that foreign exchange reserves at the Central Bank total \$450 million and foreign currency deposits of banks were \$1.100 million (Al Dustour).

** PRICES OF imported meat have dropped below the prices fixed by the Ministry of Supply. The average decline was 200 fils per kilogramme of the first grade meat stamped by a purple colour. Observers said the drop in price was due to large and cheap supplies from the meat-rich Islamic republics of the former Soviet Union and the stiff competition among traders. A ministry official said first-grade and second-grade meat prices would not exceed JD 3.100 and JD 2.500 per kilogramme under any circumstance (Al Ra'i).

** THE MINISTRY of Supply will start distributing Australian rice from the beginning of next month to be sold at both subsidised and free prices along the American rice the supply of which are running low (Al Ra'i).

Jordanian businessmen find 'great potential' in the Romanian market

By Ica Wahbeh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A five-man trade delegation has returned with "fruitful and encouraging results" from Romania after a five-day business trip meant to introduce the Jordanian manufacturing industry to this East European country to familiarise Jordanian business with the markets there and help them conclude joint ventures and appoint agents or distributors for their products.

Organised by the Amman World Trade Centre (WTC), in cooperation with the Bucharest counterpart, the mission stemmed from a survey circulated among the members of the centre and was a follow up to the June visit of the Romanian prime minister who came to the Kingdom accompanied by 50 Romanian businesspeople, according to trip coordinator/moderator Rodica Ma'aya, public relations and administration manager at the Amman WTC.

Although trade relations between the two countries have a long-standing tradition, the latest trip comes in a changed business climate brought about by political changes and the launching of a market economy, said Ms. Ma'aya.

While most businessmen seemed to agree that it is easier to import Romanian products than to export to that country, they also agreed that there is great potential regarding the Romanian market.

It was nevertheless a good experience, a first step," said Mr. Habib, mentioning that Romanians are "friendly and cooperative and the country has potential and future."

There are great possibilities, especially in industry, for joint ventures, once we

get accustomed to the basic structure of the Romanian way of dealing, which is a bit different from ours," said Mr. Faris.

He sees the Romanian market as a "price competitive market, not quality oriented," where "not much can be done at the moment."

Another disadvantage for us, Jordanian businessmen, is the fact that cheaper Turkish and Egyptian products, of mediocre quality, helped by lower freight charges due to shorter distances, affect our offers to Romania," said Mr. Faris who again stressed that once the new development plans are put into practice things will change on the Romanian market.

The trade mission also included Al Zay Ready Wear Manufacturing Co., Fine Hygienic Paper Co. Ltd. and Household Appliances Manufacturing Company Ltd. (HAMCO). Its mem-

bers had the chance to hold meetings, make contracts with interested parties and visit industrial sites, plants, factories, commercial establishments and governmental institutions.

The opening session was attended by Jordan's ambassador to Romania, Fawaz Abu Tayeh. Mr. Abu Tayeh's participation, according to the participants, was very helpful. "He knows much about the Romanian market and his speech was also a brief piece of advice on how to invest and how to trade with Romanians," said Mr. Faris.

More than that, said Ms. Ma'aya, "Ambassador Abu Tayeh expressed keen interest to follow up on our visit and coordinate with Bucharest WTC President Napoleon Pop for organising a Jordanian week in Romania."

TCC launches \$50m Eurobonds

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) has launched \$50 million in seven-year floating rate bonds in the European market to raise part of the financing for its expansion project.

It is the first time for the TCC to tap the European money market and also marks the first time that Jordan, through the Central Bank of Jordan, sought European financing through bonds since 1990.

The bonds, which will mature in September 2002, are guaranteed by the World Bank (for principal) and by the TCC itself for interest at slightly more than six-month London inter-bank offered rates.

The issue was listed in the capital markets of Amman and Luxembourg and will be governed by relevant English laws.

The issue is the first

international financing for many other development and infrastructure projects. It was, however, reported that the bond issue had drawn "good interest," indicative of the trend in the international money market, particularly European, to take an interest in the opportunities available

in the Middle East, including Jordan, in the wake of the breakthroughs in the Arab-Israeli peace.

The lead management of the bond issue, which will help the TCC's \$200 million expansion programme, has been entrusted to Paribas Capital Markets and ANZ Grindlays Bank.

The bonds, which will mature in September 2002, are guaranteed by the World Bank (for principal) and by the TCC itself for interest at slightly more than six-month London inter-bank offered rates.

The issue is the first international bond issue out of Jordan and is the first for the telecommunications sector in the Middle East," the lead managers noted, adding that the proceeds will contribute to the expansion of the Jordanian telecommunications network.

Saudi prince gets extension to Euro Disney agreement

PARIS (R) — Theme Park operator Euro Disney said Wednesday that Walt Disney Co. and Saudi businessman Prince Al Waleed Bin Talal have agreed to extend a friendly shareholding pact for a further five years.

The prince will receive a five-year extension to an original one-year deadline which would have forced him to cut his stake in Euro Disney, which runs the Disneyland Paris park, the company said in a statement.

A Euro Disney spokesman said the new agreement between two of its major shareholders was a sign of confidence in the company.

"We interpret it as a sign of confidence by an investor of international renown in the future of the company," he said.

The Paris Bourse welcomed the news by marking the shares up 0.50 French francs to 16.35 francs (\$3.19) on heavy turnover of just over two million shares by midday.

Market analyst Veronique Adam of broker J.P. Morgan said, "It's very good news. It's a sign of the confidence the prince has in the future and development of Euro Disney's business."

"Once again it shows not

only was Prince Al Waleed right to bet on the short-term but also the long-term," she added.

The prince became a big minority shareholder in Euro Disney last year when he stepped in as a last-minute investor in its share rights issue, which raised six billion francs to cut its debt mountain which then stood at 21 billion francs.

He sought around 24 per cent of Euro Disney shares but agreed with Walt Disney to reduce his stake within a year to half the 39.2 per cent stake held by the U.S. company.

He currently holds 23.6 per cent of Euro Disney, the company said. He would have had to sell some four per cent of that holding under the old agreement to reduce his stake.

That would have meant an eventual 30 million shares coming on to the market, which could have weakened the stock price.

Analyst Nigel Reed at broker Paribas said the agreement "removes a potential trigger for the share price to fall."

The Saudi businessman bought the stock at the price of the share rights issue last year of 10 francs per share.

| AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR WEDNESDAY 13/9/1995 | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| COMPANY'S NAME | NO. OF SHARES | PRV. TRADED | CLOSING PRICE JD |
| ARAB BANK PIG | 100 | 22750 | 227.500 |
| JORDAN NATIONAL BANK | 15419 | 69122 | 4.480 4.490 |
| BANK OF JORDAN | 24450 | 83137 | 3.420 |
| MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK | 2250 | 2703 | 1.200 1.210 |
| INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK | 94662 | 233825 | 2.480 2.490 |
| THE HOUSING BANK | 970 | 5499 | 5.650 5.670 |
| JORDAN KUWAIT BANK | 100 | 1000 | 2.730 2.740 |
| JORDAN GULF BANK | 9000 | 10280 | 1.120 1.130 |
| JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK | 3824 | 14224 | 3.720 3.730 |
| JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK | 544 | 2172 | 4.000 4.000 |
| AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT | 22713 | 21667 | 1.960 1.950 |
| PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK | 10300 | 16516 | 1.600 1.610 |
| BANKS SECTOR | 184836 | 483500 | INDEX NUMBER: 186.42 |
| | | | CHANGE: -0.07% |
| JORDAN INSURANCE | 300 | 990 | 3.350 3.360 |
| JORDAN FRENCH INSURANCE | 2014 | 5317 | 2.520 2.540 |
| ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE | 59500 | 149940 | 2.540 2.520 |
| INSURANCE SECTOR | 61814 | 156247 | INDEX NUMBER: 133.91 |
| | | | CHANGE: -0.51% |
| JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER | 55588 | 93426 | 1.650 1.670 |
| ARAB INTERNATIONAL SERVICES | 6750 | 38138 | 5.660 5.650 |
| NATIONAL PORTFOLIO INVESTMENTS | 10750 | 12100 | 2.100 2.090 |
| REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT | 31456 | 35948 | 1.150 1.140 |
| JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER | 18500 | 2192 | 1.180 1.180 |
| MACHINERY EQUIP. MAINTENANCE & MAINTENANCE | 8300 | 5938 | 7.000 7.200 |
| UNITED MIDDLE EAST & COMMODORE HOTELS | 223150 | 526978 | 2.380 2.400 |
| ARAB INTER. FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION | 5100 | 16106 | 3.170 3.190 |
| SARAK PRIVATE UNIVERSITY | 9525 | 12971 | 1.340 1.370 |
| SERVICES SECTOR | 350222 | 750825 | INDEX NUMBER: 128.22 |
| | | | CHANGE: +0.04% |
| THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES | 5891 | 21642 | 3.670 3.670 |
| JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES | 172 | 513 | 3.010 3.010 |
| THE ARAB POOLAGE | 400 | 1968 | 4.950 4.950 |
| JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY | 640 | 6136 | 9.600 9.580 |
| THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL | 2861 | 8038 | 3.160 3.160 |
| THE JORDAN HORSTED MILLS | 599 | 4428 | 7.350 7.400 |
| ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING | 3963 | 19838 | 5.000 5.010 |
| ARABIC INDUSTRIES | 475 | 2823 | 3.900 3.950 |
| JORDAN DATA | 125 | 1253 | 2.400 2.400 |
| DAR AL DATA DEVELOPMENTS & INVESTMENT | 6974 | 51733 | 4.000 4.000 |
| ARAB ALUMINUM INDUSTRY | 200 | 1040 | 5.270 5.200 |
| LIVESTOCK & POULTRY | 328200 | 235937 | 6.600 6.700 |
| ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING | 19700 | 28460 | 1.470 1.480 |
| NATIONAL INDUSTRIES | 34766 | 40777 | 1.180 1.160 |
| JORDAN SULPHO-CHEMICALS | 2950 | 5710 | 1.920 1.920 |
| ARABIC INDUSTRIES FOR PHARM. & CHEMICALS | 350 | 511 | 1.430 1.470 |
| UNIVERSITY MACHINERY INDUSTRIES | 2000 | 4208 | 2.150 2.140 |
| JORDAN INDUSTRIAL SERVICES CO. | 2750 | 12288 | 3.270 3.260 |
| 6660 | 5165 | 2.150 2.040 | |
| INTERNATIONAL TOBACCO & CIGARETTES | 14650 | 14650 | 1.680 1.680 |
| UNION CHEMICAL & VEGETABLE OIL INDUSTRI | 2000 | 4236 | 2.040 2.030 |
| INDUSTRIAL SECTOR | 475856 | 540718 | INDEX NUMBER: 125.97 |
| | | | CHANGE: +0.07% |
| GRAND TOTAL | 1072528 | 1921091 | INDEX NUMBER: 156.13 |
| | | | CHANGE: -0.02% |

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

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Amman hosts Asian Olympic qualifier Kingdom's team takes on Qatar Friday

By Aileen Banayan
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Kingdom's national soccer team Friday takes on Qatar as Al Hussein Sports City Stadium hosts the opening match of the Asian Group 8 Olympic qualifier. Jordan's group also includes Iraq who will be playing and later hosting their first international tournament since U.N. sanctions were imposed following the 1990 Gulf war.

The eight Asian group winners will qualify to the second round following which the top three teams will represent Asia in next year's centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta.

The Kingdom's team was regrouped over five months ago and received the careful attention of Jordan Soccer Federation (JSF) Chairman His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah. The team had 12 official practice matches in Taiwan, Russia and Lebanon and nine matches with top local teams.

The team includes Abdul Naser Jibril, Raed Salman, Turki Sawalha, Abdulla Abu Zame'h, Aymen Abu Hableh, Amjad Taher, Amjad Abu Tu'ayneh, Samir Lutfi, Faisal Ibrahim, Adnan Awad, Issa Azayez, Walid Abdul Rahman, Safer Hijawi, Abdullah Shiyab, Suwan Abdulla, Ali Juma'a, Badran Al Shaqrani, Mazen Anbar, Husam Hammash,



Jordan's national Olympic team

were reduced to 54 from 16 clubs and then later chosen after the practice matches.

The team then had a carefully drawn-up series of 21 practice matches here and abroad. Results came as follows:

In their first match Iraq's

Zawra beat Jordan 2-1.

On a training camp in Russia

| Date | Venue |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Friday 15/9 | Jordan vs Qatar |
| Friday 22/9 | Qatar vs Iraq |
| Friday 29/9 | Jordan vs. Iraq |
| Friday 6/10 | Jordan vs. Jordan |
| Friday 13/10 | Iraq vs. Qatar |
| Friday 20/10 | Iraq vs. Jordan |

Bassam Al Khatib, Munir Hantash. They represent nine clubs: Al Wihdat 5, Al Ramtha 3, Al Hussein 3, Ahli 3, Jazireh 2, Baqaa 2, Qadisieh, Faisali and Arabi 1.

The final lineup was not officially announced, but the players represent the best youth members of Jordan's top teams. Seventy players had been originally called up. After a training camp they

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All Africa Games**Sporting map redrawn by S. African debut****Fredericks and Matete go missing**

HARARE (AFP) — The 10-day, sixth All Africa Games open here on Wednesday with South Africa certain to create ripples, if not waves, in the medals table.

Once banished from world sport because of their apartheid policies, South Africa, who have since won Rugby's World Cup and competed in the Olympics, are set to gauge their sporting strength against Africa's best.

More than 5,000 athletes from 48 nations compete in this four-yearly event, boosted by a 200 million Zimbabwe dollar (\$23 million) cash injection from Robert Mugabe's government.

Egypt have topped the medal standings four out of five times in the Games' 30-year history, but South Africa could change all that.

Once Kenya, Egypt, and Nigeria ruled the continent. But South Africa is set to make inroads and redraw the balance of sporting power.

Kenyan coach Joseph Kahare had no doubts South Africa would make their mark in this 21-sport event marshalled by 5,000 volunteers.

"South Africa are a powerhouse in sport — they'll be winning medals," he said. Ethiopia's assistant athletics coach Mulugeta Melese agreed with Kahare's view, and Zimbabwe official Artwell Mandaza added Africa's sporting map would change for good.

Zimbabwe's sporting prowess is also likely to be boosted by the impetus these Games will bring, said Mandaza, who lights the flame.

Japanese superbiker dies after crash coma

ASSEN, Netherlands (R) — Japanese motorcycle rider Yasutomo Nagai has died of head injuries sustained in a crash during a race in the World Superbike Championships on Sunday, his Yamaha team said on Wednesday.

The 29-year-old Rider was rushed unconscious to hospital on Sunday after crashing on the 15th lap of the 16-lap

second race of the meeting. Nagai was hit by his machine after skidding to avoid a patch of oil.

He remained in a coma until doctors pronounced him dead late on Tuesday evening.

"Yasutomo passed away peacefully on Tuesday evening in the presence of his girlfriend and parents," Yamaha said in a statement.

the 5:30 p.m. (1530 GMT) opening ceremony at the national stadium.

Apart from the new 87.5 million Zimbabwe dollar swimming complex at Chitungwiza, two hockey stadiums costing 100 million Zimbabwe dollars and a refurbished national stadium, enthusiasm for sport across the nation will be a major plus.

Sport in Zimbabwe can only benefit from hosting these games. A new generation of sportmen in Zimbabwe will come through," Mandaza added.

Kenneth Harnden, the host nation's big hope in the 400m hurdles, said: "These Games will lift the whole nation. And if Zimbabwe get a few medals, so much the better."

Zimbabwe sprinter Thabani Gonye, hoping to make the 100m and 200m finals, said: "It's just so exciting to be here and to be part of the team."

And to motivate home competitors, Mugabe has promised individual winners \$2,300 U.S. dollars and team gold medalists \$11,500 U.S. dollars with silver and bronze medalists also rewarded.

However, the Games have not been without problems with athletes and volunteers having lengthy waits for accreditation, and hotel rooms often not ready.

The genuine desire to help by the local population, hotel staff and organisers has been hampered by insufficient experience in dealing with an event of this size.

Chaos strikes African Games

Foreign dignitaries and athletes trying to get their passes for the 6th All Africa Games were jostled here by police on Tuesday as the computer system failed.

Temper flared when VIPs, athletes and local MPs, who had been queuing for several hours in the sweltering sunshine, were forced to go through the whole procedure again when their names did not show up on the computer.

"We are all extremely upset about what happened and we feel terribly sad for Yasu's family and girlfriend," Yamaha sporting director Christian Sarron said.

"Absolutely no blame whatsoever can be apportioned for the accident... Assen is one of the safest tracks in the world, it was not a high speed crash and normally a rider would have got

up and walked away and that just makes it harder to accept," Sarron added.

Yasutomo passed away peacefully on Tuesday evening in the presence of his girlfriend and parents," Yamaha said in a statement.

Al Ahli represent Jordan as Asia's best club teams meet in Malaysia

By Aleen Banayan,
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's basketball champions Al Ahli Thursday leave for Kuala Lumpur, to represent Jordan in the sixth Asian Basketball Confederation Champions Cup which will be held in the Malaysian capital Sept. 17-24.

Al Ahli will be playing in Group A together with Liaoning (China), Hong Fu (Taiwan), and the champions of Iran and the Philippines.

Group B includes Japan Energy Kia Motor (South Korea), Sin Kee (Singapore), Punjab (India) and Petronas (Malaysia).

After a one round-robin, the top two teams in each group will meet in the final round. The winners will play for top two places and the losers for third and fourth while the rest of the teams play for fifth-10th places.

In a telephone interview with the Jordan Times, Al Ahli's Chairman Adnan Naghaway said he was hopeful the Jordanian champions, the only Arab team in the tournament, will fare well against other



The Kingdom's basketball champions — Al Ahli

Asian champions but he also noted preparations for the tournament did not go according to plan.

"We had hoped we could have some training camps in neighbouring countries, but a host of reason prevented us from doing that."

Mr. Naghaway, who will be heading Al Ahli's delegation, said many of the team's players had injuries during the past month — a fact that hampered the team's overall preparations.

The team only hosted Iraq's Al Shurta, and played a series of friendlies against third-placed Al Jazireh.

Al Ahli's lineup will include the team's top stars Marwan Ma'touq, Naser Bushnaq and Yousef Zaghoul.

In addition the team includes Ramez Hamoudah, Riyad Ayesh,

Faisal Nsour, Wisam Nino, Walid Badran, Taimour Shammali, Marwan Saeed, Nihad Madi and Sami

Sadidin.

The organisers said each team is allowed to register two foreign players in the championship which was revived after three years and will be an annual affair from now on.

Schedule of matches

| | |
|------|------------------|
| 17/9 | Abli-Iran |
| 19/9 | Abli-Philippines |
| 20/9 | Abli-Taiwan |
| 21/9 | Abli-China |

Ivanisevic advances in Bordeaux; Rosset out

BORDEAUX (Agencies) — Top-seeded Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia defeated Paul Wakesa of Kenya, 6-3, 6-1, to advance to the second round of the \$400,000 passing shot tennis tournament Tuesday.

Marc Rosset of Switzerland, seeded third, had to retire from his match against Italy's Stefano Pescosolido when he couldn't continue with a blister on his hand. Pescosolido led 6-1, 1-0, when Rosset quit.

In other first round matches, Frenchman Lionel Roux defeated compatriot Henri Leconte, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3; Jakob Hlasek of the Czech Republic beat Alexander Mronz of Germany, 6-3, 6-3; qualifier Danny Sapsford of Britain routed Gianluca Pozzi of Italy, 6-1, 6-2 and sixth-seeded Olivier Delaître of France topped

Nuno Marques of Portugal, 6-4, 6-2.

Two other British players lost. Radomir Vasek of the Czech Republic down Chris Wilkinson 6-4, 5-7, 6-1 and

Johan Van Herck of Belgium eliminated Jeremy Bates, 6-3, 7-6 (7-1).

Wiliander back for Sweden

Sweden's Matts Wiliander

returns to Davis Cup tennis next week after an absence of five years, organisers said on Tuesday.

Wiliander, 31, who played in three winning Swedish teams in the 1980s, was named by captain Carl-Axel Hageskog for the semi-final clash with the USA in Las Vegas from Sept. 22.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

JORDAN MOBILE TELEPHONE SERVICES (JMTS) IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT IT WILL COMMENCE THE DISTRIBUTION OF SIM CARDS, REQUIRED FOR THE ACTIVATION OF THE GSM CELLULAR SERVICE, FOR PRE-REGISTERED CUSTOMERS AT

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ON THE DATES THAT APPEAR HEREUNDER AND ACCORDING TO PRE-REGISTRATION VOUCHER NUMBERS

| Customer Voucher Number | Date Of Attendance |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 TO 200 | 16/9/95 |
| 201 TO 400 | 17/9/95 |
| 401 TO 600 | 18/9/95 |
| 601 TO 800 | 19/9/95 |
| 801 TO 1100 | 20/9/95 |
| 1101 TO 1400 | 21/9/95 |
| 1401 TO 1700 | 23/9/95 |
| 1701 TO 2100 | 24/9/95 |
| 2101 TO 2500 | 25/9/95 |
| 2501 TO 2900 | 26/9/95 |
| 2901 TO 3400 | 27/9/95 |
| 3401 TO 3900 | 28/9/95 |
| 3901 TO 4400 | 30/9/95 |
| 4401 TO 4900 | 1/10/95 |
| 4901 TO 5400 | 2/10/95 |
| 5401 TO 5900 | 3/10/95 |
| 5901 TO 6400 | 4/10/95 |
| 6401 TO 6900 | 5/10/95 |
| 6901 TO 7400 | 7/10/95 |
| 7401 TO 7900 | 8/10/95 |

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- The following amounts:
 - JD 21 first monthly fee.
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 - JD 150 deposit for access to international dialing.

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all above prices subject to 10% Government tax and 10% service charge

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Libya expels more, but says it may call a stop

SALLOUM. Egypt (Agencies) — Libya said Wednesday it may call a halt to the expulsion of Palestinian workers, as hundreds more were expected at the Egyptian border where 32 families are already stranded.

Officials at the border post of Salloum said 20 buses of Palestinians were expected later the same day on their way to Jordan and the self-rule area of Gaza, as Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat appealed to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and the Arab League to intervene.

However in Tripoli, an official said Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi may reverse his decision to expel the 30,000 Palestinians living there out of humanitarian concerns.

The expulsions have "achieved their goal, which is to show up the monstrous bartering over the mini-state and what is being done in the name of the Palestinians," said Ahmad Ibrahim, a member of parliament's political bureau.

Colonel Qadhafi began to throw out Palestinians earlier this month and urged other Arab states to do likewise to show up the failure of the PLO's self-rule deal with Israel.

"A review of this decision which will be based on humanitarian considerations and

not on nationalist policy is necessary, especially after the refusal of some Arab countries to welcome the Palestinians," Mr. Ibrahim said.

Some 100 Palestinians have been stranded in no-man's land on the Egypt-Libya border for the past two weeks after being turned back by Egypt, and despite a wave of Arab and international protest at the expulsions.

The 32 stranded families, who are living in wooden cabins, appealed for help from the United Nations agency for Palestinian refugees UNRWA.

"I don't know how long this will go on," said Issam Abdul Radi, a teacher who was kicked out of Libya with his family. "Winter is coming and we can't see light at the end of the tunnel. I hope UNRWA finds a solution."

Mr. Arafat has condemned the Libyan leader's action as a "crime."

Ten hardline Palestinian opposition groups based in Syria issued a statement Wednesday urging Col. Qadhafi to call a halt to deportations which they said had "traumatised the Palestinian people."

Eleven Palestinian families have been camped since last week at the Rafah border post between Egypt and Gaza, with Israel refusing to grant work permits, abandoning a policy of open borders with its neighbours.

In Sidon, Palestinians in

Lebanon's largest refugee camp went on strike to protest the expulsion and the Beirut government's decision to ban the entry of Palestinians.

Teenage boys and older men burned tires at the entrances of the teeming 'In Al Hilweh camp, where shops were closed and most of the 70,000 inhabitants stayed indoors.

The strike at 'In Al Hilweh, on the outskirts of this southern provincial capital 32 kilometres south of Beirut, was not observed at other refugee camps in Lebanon.

The strike was also staged to protest the second anniversary of the signing of the 1993 PLO-Israel accord on Palestinian self-rule.

The Lebanese government, fearing an influx of Palestinians expelled by Libya, decided Saturday to impose visa restrictions on all Palestinians wishing to enter Lebanon. The move was condemned by Palestinian officials.

"We staged a strike today to underscore our condemnation of Libya's decision of mass deportation of Palestinians working there," Abed Makdah, a local leader in the camp, said.

Libya has also been expelling other Arab workers without work permits, abandoning a policy of open borders with its neighbours.



QATARI EMIR'S VISIT: The emir of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad Ben Khalifa Al Thani, bids farewell to their Royal Highnesses Prince Mohammad and Crown Prince Hassan upon his departure from Amman after a brief visit on Wednesday (see page one) (Petra photo)

France attempts to soothe EU, Japan

PARIS (R) — France announced moves to soothe European and Japanese opposition to its South Pacific nuclear weapons tests on Wednesday in an effort to limit diplomatic damage among its major trading partners.

The government said it would allow the European Commission to send experts immediately to check radioactivity monitoring at its test sites on Mururoa and Fangataufa atolls and agreed to meet a Japanese envoy dispatched to protest against last week's first of a series of planned tests.

European Affairs Minister Michel Barnier said he had written to the European commissioner for the environment and nuclear security, Ritt Bjerregaard, saying a delegation was welcome to go to the atolls and passing on more information on radiation levels during the last series of tests in 1991-93.

Foreign Minister Herve de Charette meanwhile agreed to meet Japanese special envoy Nobuo Matsunaga after Tokyo dissociated itself from Finance Minister Masahoshi Takemura's participation in an anti-nuclear march in Tahiti.

The foreign ministry had said on Tuesday it might refuse to see Mr. Matsunaga, a former ambassador to the United States. But it expressed satisfaction with a statement by Foreign Minister Yohei Kono that Mr. Takemura had acted in a private capacity and in no way reflected Japanese government positions.

Mr. Takemura had described as "crazy" the resumption of nuclear testing, which came on the heels of the 50th anniversary of the World War II destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by U.S. atomic bombs in which 210,000 people were killed.

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